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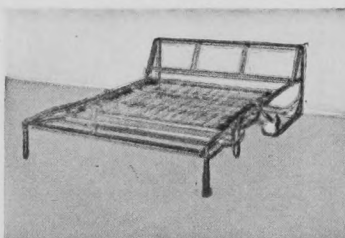
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[National Film Board Photo.]

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Our cover artist this month is the Rev. Hugh Irwin, who, with Dame Nature as a willing co-operator, has produced this lovely photograph of autumn colors mirrored in still lake water. The view was found on Kalamalka Lake, in the northern part of the Okanagan Valley, in British Columbia.

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# B.F. Goodrich TRAILMAKER TIRES

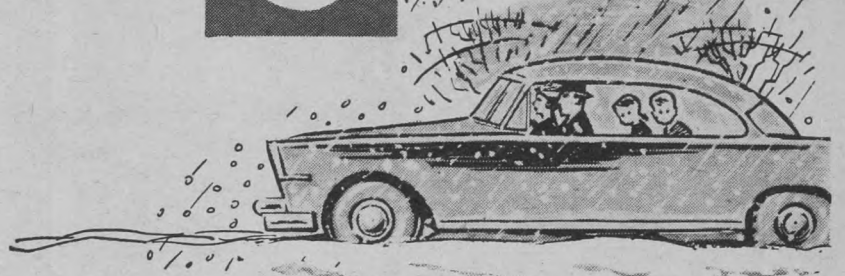
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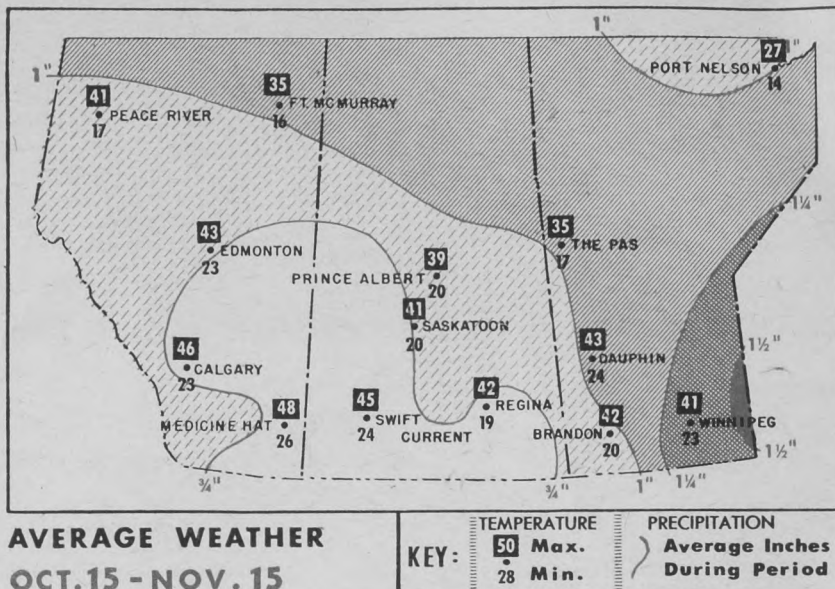
Tune in to C-I-L "Singing Stars of Tomorrow," Sundays, Dominion Network

## Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff  
for

THE *Country*  
GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)

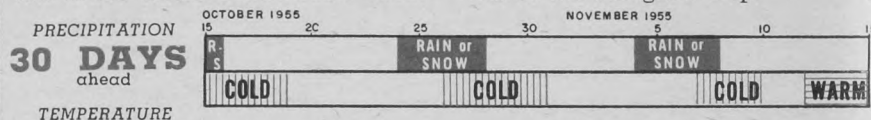


### Alberta

Typically normal weather will prevail in Alberta in late fall. Temperatures will approximate the historical average in southern portions of the province, tending to moderately below average in the Peace River district. A mean temperature of about 35 degrees is anticipated in Calgary, about 28 degrees in Grande Prairie. An extended period of cold weather is expected the latter part of October. Minimum temperatures during the cold spell should range from zero to 10 below in the south to 10 to 20 below in the north. Considerable warm-

ing will occur about mid-November. Precipitation, almost exclusively snow, will range from one-half to one inch of moisture. Greatest amounts will be realized in the latter half of October. Snow, a forerunner of the cold spells, will provide moderate protection for fall-sown grains and forage crops. Fair weather is expected for the fall livestock sale in Calgary, October 18-21. Cold and disagreeable weather are on the docket for the Edmonton and Lethbridge sales, October 25-27 and 28-29, respectively.

Indian summer weather prevailed in the province last year facilitating harvest of the late grain crop.

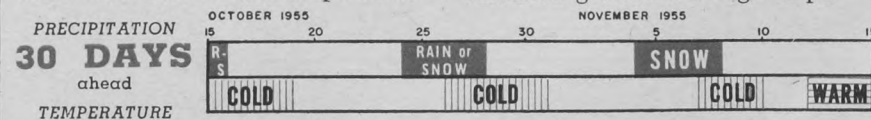


### Saskatchewan

Moderately cool, although seasonal, weather is in prospect for Saskatchewan. Temperatures will approximate normal for the province as a whole, averaging modestly above average in the southwest, to a degree or two below average in the northeast. A real taste of winter, however, is expected late in October. Minimum temperatures of about zero will be prevalent in the south, trending to as low as 20 degrees below zero in northern districts. Less intense cold snaps are an-

anticipated about October 15-19 and November 7-10. Considerable warming will occur toward mid-November. Snow, preceded by rain in southern districts, will be relatively heavy in October and virtually nil during the first half of November. Accumulation will be sufficient to provide at least moderate protection to fall-seeded crops. Fair weather is in prospect for the livestock sale in Saskatoon, October 19 and 20.

Warm, dry weather during the period last year benefited harvest and sustained growth of forage crops.

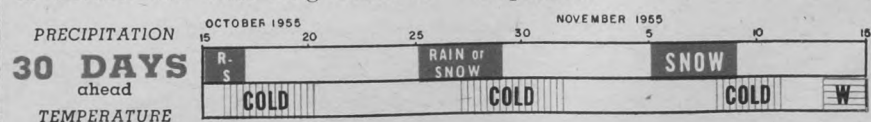


### Manitoba

Relatively cold and dry weather is in prospect for Manitoba. Several cold snaps are anticipated with especially cold weather during the last week of October. Minimum temperatures accompanying the latter cold period will range from near zero in the south to 10 to 15 below in the north. Precipitation, mostly snow, will be heaviest in October and most insignificant in

early November. Total precipitation for the period will be moderately below average. With cold weather predominating, growth of pastures and fall-planted crops will lag below normal. Supplementary feed requirements will be somewhat higher than usual.

Warm, dry weather proved invaluable last year after a season of jumbled planting dates and retarded crop development.



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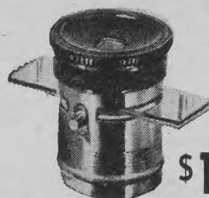
The man of the family will appreciate this latest model hunting knife, the Monarch, fashioned by famous Korium of West Germany. Solid Solingen surgical steel blade etched with deer scene in 3 colors; handsome stag and chrome handle. Blade is actually sharp enough to shave with! Genuine leather sheath tailored to fit trimly. Hand forged—a knife that will stand up under years of rough use. Sportsmen will really appreciate a gift of this type!

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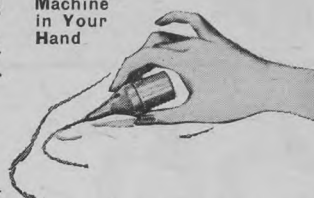
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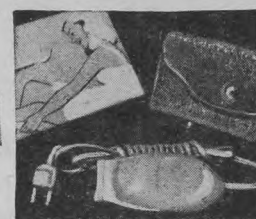
A Sewing  
Machine  
in Your  
Hand



## Automatic Hand Stitcher

NOW! A "sewing machine" that fits in your hand! This hand stitcher practically doubles your sewing speed... eliminates rethreading... lets you perform sewing jobs at home that you'd ordinarily have to send out to a tailor. Fits snugly in your hand, yet it can baste, hem, tack, shirr, smock, over-cast and applique. Perfect for tailoring, decorating and repairing. No skill required. Illustrated directions included.

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No Tools Needed



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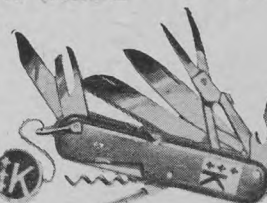
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10 TOOLS IN ONE—the famed Swiss Army knife is recognized by sportsmen and hobbyists as the most compact multi-purpose tool ever devised. This is the lowest price it has ever sold for! Made of finest Korium steel in Solingen, West Germany. Can be worn on belt. Length 3 1/2". Solid Vidal handle. This new Korium version is tough, rugged, durable. A wonderful gift for hunters, fishermen, hobbyists and sportsmen.

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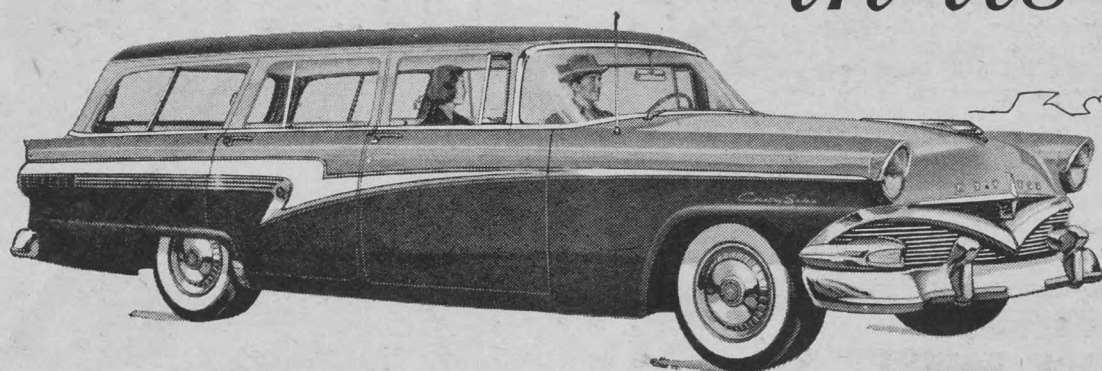


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**4 series—with new beauty!**  
**New power-advanced V-8's!**

New '56 Meteor—the foremost star in its field—presents "Safeguard" Design, an entirely new idea in driver-passenger protection. "Safeguard" Design features are the outgrowth of 5 years intensive study by Meteor engineers and designers in co-operation with leading traffic safety experts and universities.

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See '56 Meteor—prove to yourself it's the foremost star—more than ever miles ahead!

*\*Optional at extra cost.*



BE MILES AHEAD WITH **'56 Meteor** A FINER V-8 VALUE FROM FORD OF CANADA

SEE IT NOW AT YOUR METEOR DEALER'S

# Maritimes Get Land from the Sea



*Federal and provincial governments have joined with farmers to reclaim 90,000 acres of rich marshland created by Bay of Fundy tides*

*by H. S. FRY*

*Left: View across the Tantramar Marsh in N.B. The small buildings dotting the marsh are hay barns. Small field dale ditches remove excess surface water, but are hard to see well in the picture.*

*M.M.R.A. photos*

**T**HE only known land reclamation project of its kind, anywhere in the world, is scheduled for completion this year, in New Brunswick. It is the Shepody River Marshland Rehabilitation Project, which involves the protection of about 5,500 acres of land susceptible to flooding by the salt tide waters from the Bay of Fundy. The Shepody is a small tidal river draining about 126 square miles of land in Albert County. It empties into Chignecto Bay, an arm of the Bay of Fundy that almost succeeded in making an island out of Nova Scotia.

At various places along the Bay of Fundy, but particularly on its upper reaches, there are many marshy areas. These have been formed from the sandstone eroded from the sides and bottoms of the channels, by the tremendous pressure of the tidal currents. The eroded particles are carried along in the swirling waters, at speeds varying from three to ten miles per hour, until the force of the tide is expended and the particles sink. After an unknown number of years and innumerable deposits, the land has been built up and out from the original shore line, to the level where salt water vegetation will grow despite floodings at high tide.

The tide waters of the Bay of Fundy have a greater rise and fall than any tide waters elsewhere in the world, ranging from 11 feet at the mouth of the Bay, to 53 feet in the upper reaches. It is estimated that some 95,000 acres of land have been created in the Maritime provinces by this tidal action, and the Shepody River project is but a unique example of what is being done to reclaim it.

What makes it unique is that *twice each day* the salt water pushes in from the Bay of Fundy, floods the marshes and recedes: yet, for the first time anywhere, giant aboiteaux are being constructed near the mouth of such a river. This involves a rock-filled dam about 1,400 feet long, which is connected with approximately three miles of dike, eight feet high. The dam is about 60 feet high, with a 30-foot top and a 190-foot base. There are two large steel aboiteaux, designed to permit enough fresh water to flow through them to take care of any fresh water flood which may be expected in a 100-year flood cycle. An aboiteau—an old French word still retained in the area—is, in effect, a gate which will open in response to pressure from the fresh

water flowing out into the Bay, but will close under the pressure of the salt water trying to flow in.

The tide range at the Shepody dam site is as much as 38.5 feet and the skillful engineering required to throw a rock-filled earth dam across a river where flow is reversed four times in each 24 hours, and where the water swirls and increases its speed more and more as the gap is narrowed, must certainly be very considerable. It is this feat which makes the Shepody project unique.

The first such successful design will undoubtedly lead to others. Each one, perhaps, will eliminate additional miles of diking, as well as large numbers of small aboiteaux, and greatly simplify the problem of draining the protected land. In addition, the problem of stream-bank erosion, which can be very serious in tidal rivers, would be solved. Finally, the elimination of flooding makes livestock pasturing, and ultimately a variety of cropping, practicable.

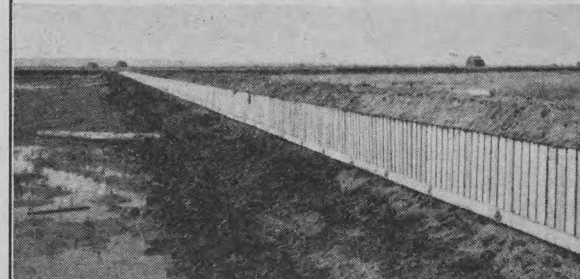
**A**LL of this and much more is being done by the Maritime Marshland Rehabilitation Administration, directed by J. S. Parker, under the Federal Maritime Marshland Rehabilitation Act, passed by Parliament in 1948. The Act itself is very short and simple. It permits the Minister of Agriculture to enter into agreements with the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, with respect to the reclamation and the development of marshlands in these provinces. Agreements were entered into with each of the three provinces in 1949.

The Federal agency, M.M.R.A., constructs or reconstructs dikes and aboiteaux that may be required to protect agricultural lands from salt water flooding. The Federal agency also does the necessary surveying, and provides engineering services. The provinces, in turn, construct and maintain drainage work on protected marshes, arrange for necessary rights-of-way, and for land needed for the protective works. The province is also responsible for organizing the marsh owners in any area, before any works are commenced; and they undertake to promote proper land use programs by the owners of the land, after it has been adequately protected. Broadly speaking, this means that the Federal Government undertakes to keep the salt water out, and the

*(Please turn to page 52)*



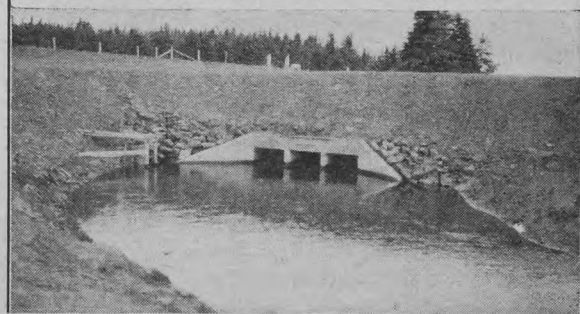
*Erosion of the stream bank is prevented here by a brush mat placed in 1951—now silted in.*



*Wind causes powerful wave action on the wet side of dikes: plank facing breaks the wave force.*



*Old, useless aboiteau (downstream side). Since 1950 more than 300 new aboiteaux have been built.*



*New three-barrelled concrete aboiteau . . . with upstream fresh water waiting to be allowed to flow out.*

# Once a Rebel . . .



**The** way Gramp tells it, General Middleton might have been chopped up for wolf bait long before he got up to Batoche if it hadn't been for a bit of fancy footwork down there in the flats of the Qu'Appelle.

Gramp says that back in the spring of '85 the Stoney Indians from all across Manitoba, and quite a few half-breeds too, had pulled up stakes and were heading for the northwest and it wasn't buffalo skins they were looking for. He says they had all their feathers and war-paint on when they got to fording the Qu'Appelle just a couple of miles above his homestead. Lord knows who'd be in power in Saskatchewan today if he and Father Marcoux, a missionary hereabouts, hadn't acted real smart.

They took the ox Gramp was using to break up bottom land with and knocked him on the head. Then they divided up the Indians and half-breeds and blew up one of the ox's stomachs and started a football tournament right there in the flat. Gramp says it was more fun than ten dog-fights—Father Marcoux in his long, flapping black robes running up and down the flat trying to keep the ball in bounds. Gramp, high-tailed over to Moosomin and got a couple of storekeepers interested in putting up prizes.

A steer has four stomachs and by the time those Indians had kicked their way through all that General Middleton and the Mounties had bottled up this Louis Riel and Big Bear and all the Stoneys went home with their papooses wrapped up in the Hudson's Bay blankets Gramp mooched in Moosomin.

Well, that's the story Gramp always tells here in the garage when talk gets around to early days. Mind you, I don't say everybody believes him, but there's nobody old enough to say different. Gramp's been in these parts since the spring of '82.

Myself, I don't know. I guess there's nothing about it in history books. I never heard of Gramp winning any medals at those Riel Rebellion reunions, but Gramp's a pretty straight shooter and there's nothing wrong with his mind. He's still running a two-section spread with only my Uncle Pete for help and I guess you know Uncle Pete isn't too reliable. Maybe Middleton didn't know how lucky he was to die with his scalp on.

There's just one reason why I doubt Gramp's story. As far as I know he's never lifted a finger to help the government in all his 92 years. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't be much surprised if he's caused the government

***It's hard to believe that they don't know Gramp down in Ottawa, after some of the letters he's written. He has been getting along fine for the past 70 years or more and has never backed down from the government yet. He's a regular bobcat when he gets riled***

by PETER HENDRY

more trouble in the long run than ever Louis Riel did. Gramp's a born rebel and I don't see why he would have changed sides in '85.

Gramp just doesn't like the smell of anything with an Ottawa postmark. Back in the war the government was asking all the farmers not to grow so much wheat and was even paying them not to grow wheat. They didn't get Gramp on their side. He used to sit down in Guy deMars cafe and tell everybody that it was a plot by those fellows at Ottawa because they thought the farmers were making too much money. Gramp allowed they weren't going to trick him and one spring he seeded down a section and a half in wheat just to spite them. Fed the last of it to his turkeys this spring.

Another time, this was in the war too, some fellows came up from Re-

gina to survey for an airfield over on the plains south of the valley. They were paying young bucks from around here \$4.00 a day to drive stakes for them and that was big money those days. Everybody said St. Lazare would boom just the way Edmonton did.

**I** GUESS you can see we aren't hardly booming. What happened was Gramp had a half section of grazing land plump in the middle of where they wanted the runway. Fellow in a big car came and offered him \$10,000 for that half and there's nothing there but couch grass. Gramp chased him off the place with a pitchfork. He said no flying machines were going to be swirling around his farm putting the cows off their milk. Rivers have Gramp to thank for that big airport they have today.

There's a better story, too, about what happened back in prohibition but it doesn't reflect much credit on the family and anyway it was more Uncle Pete's doings. Gramp just backed him up when the Mounties came smelling around. He's a regular bobcat when he gets riled.

Gramp's always been good to me, probably because my old man didn't get home from the first war. Uncle Pete always said it should have been him. I guess things would have been a lot duller around St. Lazare if it had turned out that way. Anyway I went to war myself this time and when I got out of the Ordnance Corps I decided I wanted to set up my own garage right here in St. Lazare. I'd always been pretty handy under the hood of a car and these D.V.A. fellows I talked to were ready to loan me the money.

When Gramp heard about it, he said no. "No grandson of Simon MacInnes is going borrowing money from those fellows in Ottawa. Might take your business over just when you get on your feet." He gets out his old rucksack from behind the kitchen stove and counted me out \$5,000 in fifties and hundreds. "Pay me back whenever you can," he said.

I guess you could say right there, right in that old rucksack, is where most of Gramp's troubles start these days. He's been getting along fine for 70 years or more and never backed down from the government once and never took any of their handouts either.

**N**OWADAYS these bumper crops and interim wheat payments and stuff like that has Gramp confused. He says he can't figure why the wheat board just don't give it out all at once instead of dribs and drabs. He always has cheques lying around the house he hasn't cashed. You can see these days it's kind of hard for a guy like Gramp to keep track of everything. That's where those smart inspector fellows from income tax office of the government finally got one on him.

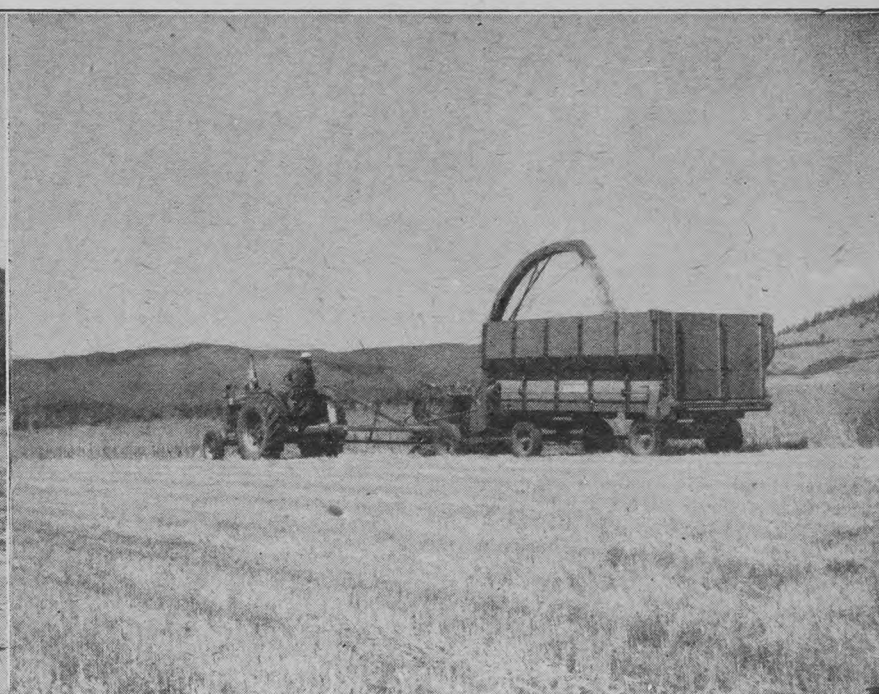
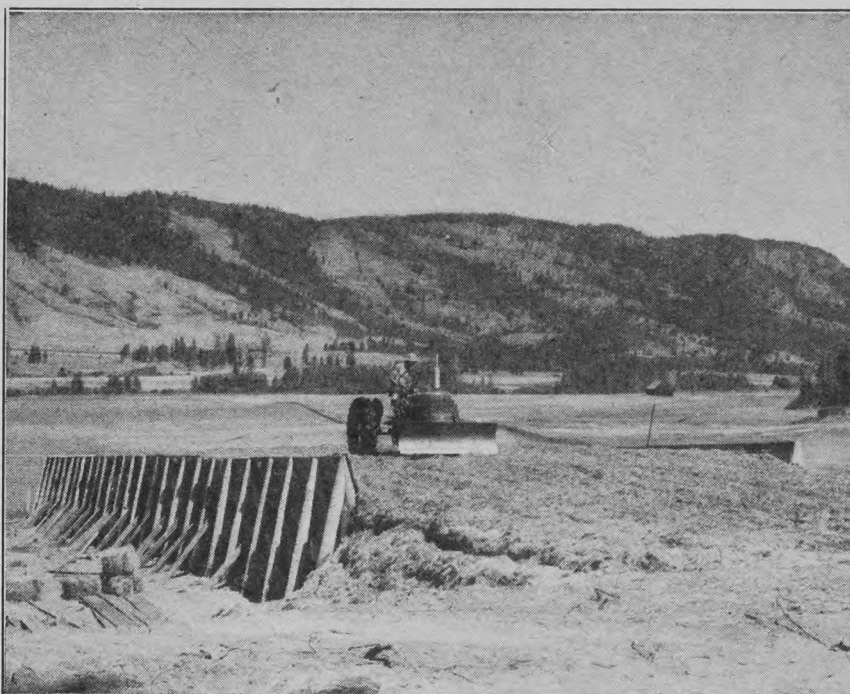
They showed up just before harvest last year. I guess they'd heard about all the bumper crops here in the valley. Geordie Dodds, he's the implement man over at Birtle, told me about it first. He was over fixing me up with spare parts for the harvest rush. Geordie told me these inspector fellows were doing the Birtle district. "Real mean," Geordie said. "They were after last year's taxes and if a fellow didn't have everything written down in a book about what he got and spent they went right back for about ten years and checked his bank account all

(Please turn to page 40)

Illustrated by  
James Simpkins



That day Gramp chased the fellow off the place with a pitchfork.



Harold Hubner packing grass silage in a large horizontal bunker-type silo at their new Spallumcheen district dairy farm in the North Okanagan Valley.

Fritz Hubner operating a forage harvester and power wagon. As each wagon is filled an empty one is ready to take its place, and the full one is towed to the silo.

# Dairyman with a Goal

**Y**OU could take one of those "Men and Machines at Work" signs you see along the highways and put it on the gate of Fritz Hubner's new farm, and for once the sign would really mean something. In the Spallumcheen district, about 20 miles northwest of Vernon, British Columbia, Fritz and his three sons, equipped with a complete line of machinery, are building a spanking new dairy farm on 666 acres of abandoned land. The property made the news headlines several years ago as the scene of a double murder, and will probably make them again as the heaviest forage crop producing land in the country. The Hubner enterprise will be a four-partner limited company with a milking force of 200 cows out of a total herd of 600 to 700 head, and will be the biggest and most modern milk producing unit in the West. If you think the final product won't measure up to present plans, you just don't know Fritz Hubner.

"If he tackles a thing, that's it," said Supervising District Agriculturist G. A. Luyat, and most people around Vernon would agree.

Thirty years ago, Fritz and his wife came directly to Vernon from their native Germany, on what he describes as a "one-way honeymoon trip." Hubner was an electro-plater in his homeland, but as soon as he arrived in the Okanagan, he decided to be a farmer. He started to work on a 30-acre place in the hills back of town, and two years later he owned it. He brought little with him except a natural ability and two capable hands, but he soon proved that what he decides to do he does, and he does quickly. Last year, with ten acres in new fruit trees and 16 acres in irrigated pasture, that same 30-acre farm fed a 60-head prize beef herd and won Fritz two top awards. In the Okanagan's newly organized Green Pastures competition he won the title "Grassman of the Year" and the Luyat Trophy, and his stock was judged "Best Beef Herd."

The only reason Fritz wasn't in the competition this year was that he's sold his beef herd, and you must have stock to qualify. But next year he will have taken delivery of a good part of the big order of purebred Holsteins he has placed in Ontario, and those who know him are betting he'll sweep the field next season, and the next, and the next, until the trophy is in his permanent possession. To quote a North Okanagan dairy leader, "the man will never be beaten."

Hubner's new dairy farm grew out of a desire to build a business enterprise for his three husky sons, Harold, Gordon, and Norman, aged 21, 23, and 24 years, respectively. From his experience on the

*A North Okanagan farmer and his three sons work from dawn to dark on a huge, new dairy enterprise*

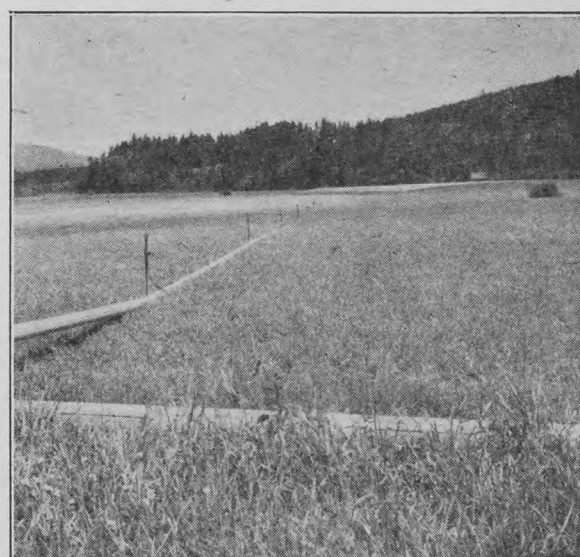
by C. V. FAULKNER

home farm, Fritz wanted to stay in beef, but the boys were convinced that the dairy cow was the best long-range income producer on the farm scene, and they persuaded him to their way of thinking. Not a man who does things by halves, he decided that, if it was to be dairying, he would build a farm they could really be proud of.

One good indication he will succeed is that grass on his big new farm at Spallumcheen last year added the Green Pastures award for "Best New Seeding" to the other honors won on the small farm. Another, is the efficient management of the home place over the past 30 years. Although part of Hubner's income came from pole logging operations in the hills back of the farm, he has, by sheer hard work and a keen business sense, developed the home place to the point where he has been able to earn a good part of the capital necessary to put his new plans into action. This was accomplished by a systematic replacement of orchard trees year by year with newer, more productive varieties, and by utilization of heavily fertilized and irrigated pastures for beef. Using the methods successfully tested by T. G. Willis at the Range Experimental Station, Kamloops, Fritz brought up his forage production to the point where he could feed up to six one-half-year-old heifers from one-quarter acre of grass.

**W**ITH work already far advanced on the new farm, Hubner's blueprinted plans show a huge, loose-housing unit extending for 1,000 feet in length, and having a width of 300 feet. The milking herd's section is divided into five parts each housing 50 cows. Added to this is a 20-stall calving building, and a 100-foot by 50-foot milking parlor. All structures are to be sheathed with aluminum, and have their own air-conditioning systems. There will be three electrically warmed drinking fountains, and one-and-a-half acres of exercising space for every 50 head.

Keynote of the Hubners' operation will be sanitation—in fact, supersanitation. "We intend to produce Grade A raw milk which will have a lower bacteria count than the average pasteurized product," he explained.



A line of No. 40 sprinklers attached to eight-inch portable aluminum pipe. Note the grass growth in this field from which a crop was removed only two weeks before.

The ten-stall milking parlor will have ultra-violet lighting to control the flies. When they enter the unit, cows will step through a sterilizing bluestone foot bath, then through a windblast tunnel to blow off any insects. Before being milked, the animals will be washed and dried; and for this, each will have separate washing and drying cloths. Automatic hoppers will supply a feed ration while they are in the stalls, and after milking, each will pass through a mechanical spray before returning to her quarters.

Both the milk itself and the farm equipment used, will receive equal care. From one cow to another, teat cups will be steamed, and milk will flow directly from the cows to weighing tanks, then to a refrigerated tank truck, so the product never comes in contact with the open air. Even all machinery used around the loafing barn will be sterilized by driving it through a lime pit. This won't run the farm into any great expense because there are tons of natural lime right on the property.

All feed for the Hubner herd will be hauled directly to them; no cows will be allowed on the pasture at all. That way, maintains Fritz, you get 20 per cent more forage from your fields, and more milk from your cows. The feed will be machine-handled right down the line, to cut handwork to a minimum. It will be cut and chopped in the field by forage harvesters, (Please turn to page 50)



*Bastian and Simon are able to avoid the heat and traffic of the day by travelling at night on the long, weary trek to lush summer pasture in the French Alps.*

# Sheep Trek in the French Alps

by MAURICE MOYAL

**I**N the plain of Crau, northwest of Marseilles, in southern France, the end of spring tapers into angry summer and the parched flocks start showing their ribs. Already, they have scraped the lowland pastures bare, and turned every pebble in the search for the last sun-scorched blade of grass. As the Crau becomes a burning cauldron under the fiery sun, they suffer intensely from the heat.

On the first day of summer, Jean Chemin, a typical sheep farmer, sets out with 2,300 sheep and goats, three shepherds, six dogs, twenty asses, one cart-mare and her colt, on a 200-mile journey from the drought-ridden lowlands to the lush Mercantour Range, well over 8,000 feet up in the French Alps, within a stone's throw of Italy.

Would you like to accompany him on his long journey? Then, you must slog it on foot all the way. It is very hot in the plains and very cold on the mountains. The animals cannot be carried to the mountains by railway, because a sudden change in temperature would harm their health. So they travel on foot for 13 days, gradually becoming accustomed to the increasingly cooler temperature as they travel upwards.

In order not to exhaust the sheep, Jean limits the marches to 15 miles a day, travelling at the rate of a mile and a half per hour. This snail's progress would be very hard on your muscles, because it is unnatural and tiring to cut the length of your step almost by half; yet it suits the slow, obstinate sheep best. The yearling lambs are in the lead, and the stronger animals must march at their slower pace. To avoid the scorching heat of the day and the dense traffic on the roads the flock mainly travels after dark.

**A**T once you are struck by the deep interest the sheepmen take in their charges. To you, one sheep looks exactly like another, but to them each is an individual. They have followed each since its birth and are thus able to tell you which is the mother of which.

The way each animal walks, grazes, suffers pain or frolics off for sheer joy of living is, for the keenly observant shepherds, as many important clues to understanding tempers. The differences in these respective patterns of behavior, and individual rates of growth, are proofs to them of the utter individuality of their charges, as certain as the networks of slightly raised papillae on their bare muzzles. These identify the individuals as clearly as fingertips identify a man: even among inbred

animals, no exact similitude in these marks has ever been recorded.

Like people, animals show an amazing variety of tempers. Some rams are quiet and peaceful enough fellows; some others, glancing upwards from their brows, will never miss the chance to make a butt at you when you don't stare straight at them. You can notice contented goats in the flock, which seem to be ever chewing their cuds, and ever-hungry ones, which can just never get enough to graze.

When the animals reach a meadow, they scatter away in several groups to graze. Each group is always made up of the same animals, for each is a family grouped around the grandmother-ewe!

The sheepmen have given a name to each of the bigger fellows that describes its appearance. At the call of its name, it will jog along at the start of every stretch, to be fondly petted—and to draw along at its tail, a whole file of congeners!

**A**S the road steadily climbs, you pass from lowlands into the foothills of the Alps, through the Mirabeau Pass. Though it is still hot, the heat has nevertheless lost its prickly sting. The sky overhead no longer resembles the baking-oven over the Crau, of so harsh an enamel blue that you could not fancy it as of any other color. Here, the sky is an egg-shell blue, deeply moving, for you feel it at the mercy of the clouds. From cruel white, the light has turned golden, and even the air seems more fluid.

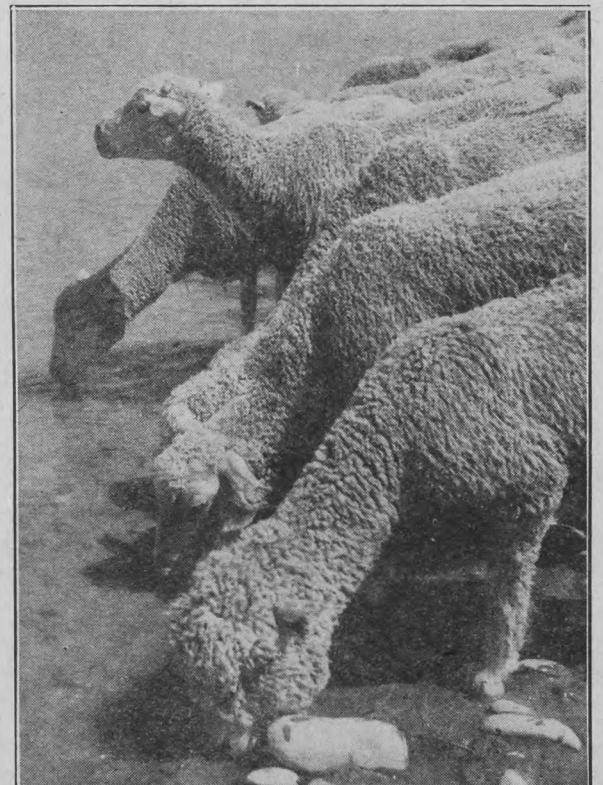
As they travel onwards, the sheep become hardier. At dawn they can graze, with no ill effects, on dewy grass that would have been very harmful to their health in the lowlands. On the upland pastures, the animals get stronger, for that is their natural environment and they lead the kind of life they are meant for. The combination of mountain air, water, lush grass and plenty of exercise soon brings them in top condition. Moreover, the altitude and keen fresh air soon knock out many of the bugs brought with them from the lowlands.

A mother-ewe will show there far more love for her lambkin than when in the lowlands, perhaps no less than a doe for her fawn. An otherwise timid ewe will not consent to be parted from her dear little one without a brief revolt. In a spurt of motherly anger, she will charge the dog chasing it, often enough with incredible strength.

The six dogs of the flocks tirelessly shuttle to and fro all along the edges of the fields to prevent their charges from harming the crops, or from getting their fleeces caught on some thorny thicket, or from falling over some precipice. However tired he might be, a sheepdog will start at full gallop, at the least gesture or shout of his master, harass the sheep, have them turn left, or right, or stop, bring them back into line, or into the open. Their cleverness, precision, nimbleness and initiative is something to marvel at.

**T**HE temperature is apt to vary as much as 35 degrees Fahrenheit, within 24 hours. At noon, the shepherds are likely to jog along naked to the waistline, only to don sweaters, coats and even large, hooded greatcoats at night. They carry this clothing in the wagon which follows the flock.

To the men and animals alike, this sturdy, covered wagon is something of a home on wheels. It carries the sheepmen's supplies for a four months'



*The tired sheep welcome a rest and a pleasant drink of mountain water on their long, 13-day journey.*

*For four months of lush pasture  
Jean Chemin treks his 2,300 sheep  
200 miles and back again*

stay on the mountains, far away from other human beings. Often it carries sheep, for some of them get their hoofs chinked, by dint of rapid and brutal successions of heat and cold, and are unable to jog along. These are marked with rose-tinted paste to tell them from the rest, and they take turns at riding in the wagon.

The dogs are also getting very weary. Their bare paws, inflamed from repeated contact with the hot asphalt of the highway, have burst open, leaving bloody marks as they pad along. The shepherds are now obliged to do their job, running to and fro, and waving their little bells at the ever-stamped sheep. The strays get quickly back into line, for, in their simple minds, the tinkling of the dog bells is associated with bared fangs.

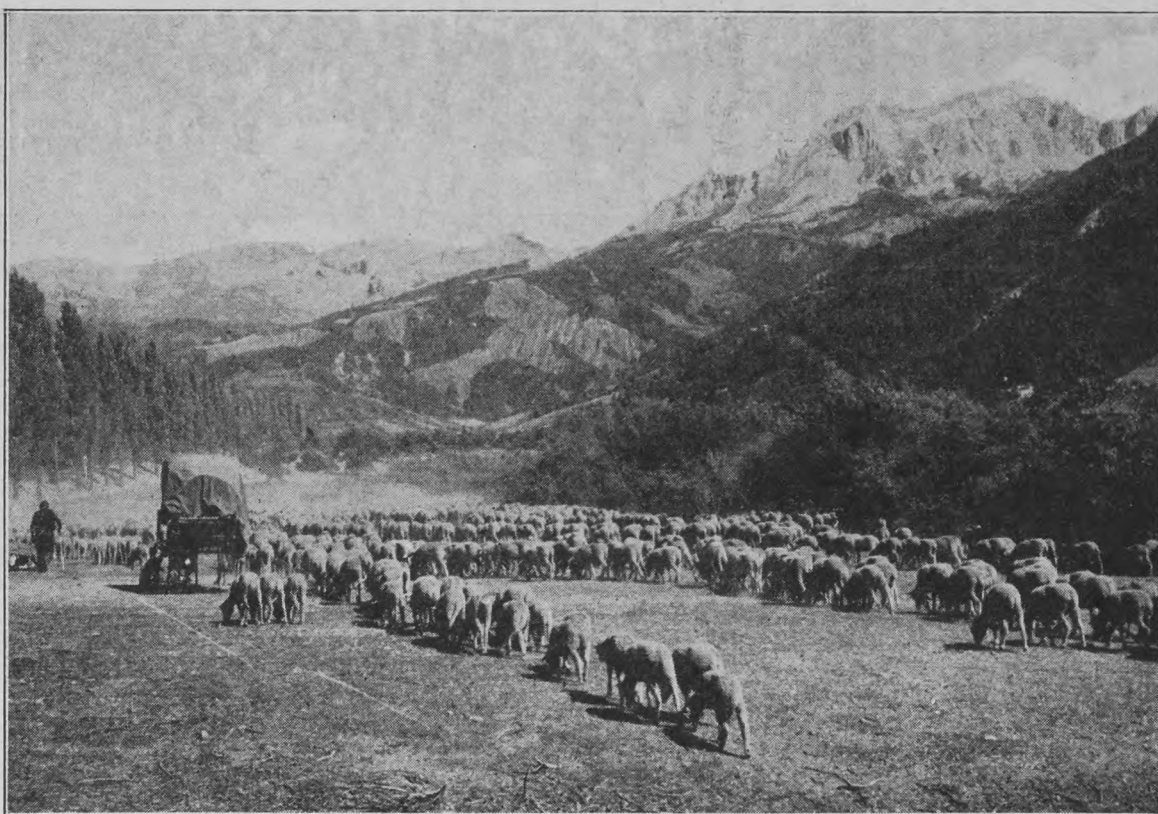
By now, the shepherds are worn out, too. The fatigue of that long journey is beginning to tell on everybody. Some, as they trudge endlessly onward at night, hold on to the shafts of the wagon. Now and then they doze off, but a bump against mare or wagon soon jolts them into weary wakefulness. Others take to shedding garment after garment in order to stay cool and wide awake.

One old chief-shepherd is so used to the trail that he can manage to trudge along in his sleep, as long as his feet are treading the hard asphalt of the road. As soon as they touch soft grass, conveying to some sort of sixth sense that they have strayed, he would wake up with a start!

As the trail winds higher and higher over traffic-jammed highways, mountain-tops and snowdrifts, and along the valleys of the Durance, Verdon, Bleone, Blanche and Ubaye Torrents, the weather changes, and the air takes on a gratifying chill.

**N**OW the shepherds are tackling the narrowest and dizziest part of their long trek, following a road that climbs high above the Bachelard Valley, a mere trench seemingly hewn in living rock by some supernatural sword stroke. The Alpine torrents they have crossed are fittingly climaxed by its wild stream, teeming with trout. The foaming waters leap in a never-ending succession of rainbow cascades.

The Bachelard is the smallest and most easterly sub-tributary of the mighty Rhone River in these



*Tired and footsore, with some sheep lost and others lame, the flock nears the snow-line and the lush mountain grass, soft with the water of melting snow and mixed with sweet, tender herbs. A welcome change!*

parts. Now, they have to climb over a last steep chain of mountains that separates its catch-basin from that of the Tinee Torrent. In the upper part of this valley is their journey's end.

Before negotiating this last and more formidable obstacle, which rises steeply from 5,500 to 10,000 feet, they rest for 24 hours at the beginning of the lofty Restefond Pass. Here the sheep are allowed to eat their fill, for they must not try to graze while making this last high climb—they might scramble over the steep rocks and fall to their death.

Since the sheepmen are to exchange the asphalted highway for a mule-track, the wagon is left behind in a shed—they will retrieve it on their way back to the Crau in October—and its cargo is transferred to pack saddles on the mare and asses.

Along this final stretch, often shrouded in mist and clouds, the asses are to lead the way, for they have a phenomenal memory for country. Once an ass has trod a winding mountain trail, he will remember its bends forever. In case of fog, you are instructed to hang on to the tail of the nearest ass, in order not to get lost. Failing that, you must follow the course of descending water. Sooner or later, it will lead you to some inhabited spot.

The flock has to climb 4,500 feet through a landscape strewn with tumbled boulders and snow patches. The sheep halt abruptly and refuse to forge ahead when the track is found buried under snow, for snow has a most unpleasant way of clinging to their woolly fleeces. Whereupon, the domesticated billy-goats that the flock is accustomed to follow, and whose long, straight hair is well-nigh snow-proof, have to be urged to take the lead. Only when those hardy animals have tramped a dirty way through, will the ewes consent to advance.

The animals begin showing evident signs of nervousness and fear, as the top of the Restefond Pass, nearly two miles above sea-level, gets shrouded in mist and clouds. In time, the flock reaches the relative safety of the strategic road cutting across the Pass. Big hailstones begin to lash painfully at the animals' muzzles. They lower their heads with the heart-rending resignation of animals long subdued to the evil forces of Nature, and again refuse to advance.

**A**S the whole range of mountains begin to echo with loud thunderclaps, the sheepmen take off their hobnailed boots and throw away everything made of metal in their pockets. With a blinding crash, lightning strikes the top of the Pass, a few feet above their heads. The frightened animals scatter like chaff in the wind. The wind veers and lashes at their tails, adding to their rout.

Despite pounding hearts and bursting lungs, everybody runs in his stocking feet at top speed, to round up the maddened animals, at the risk of falling over some yawning precipice, concealed by the creeping fog. The animals *must* always come first; such is the code of the drive. Luckily, they have caught only the tail of a freak-storm. The gale soon stops buffeting the Pass, and fog clears away.

Down a steep mule track, turned by the storm into a muddy torrent, they climb down to the Camp des Fourches pastures, 1,500 feet below. Rounding a last bend, you see ahead of you the three small cabins and the pens which are to be home for men and animals for several months, until the first snow of autumn tells them that it is time to return to the plains.

Half-frozen and dead-tired, you fall, rather than sit, upon a stool in front of the cabin. Warm food and hot coffee soon revive you.

Sheep and goats have already thrown themselves ravenously upon the rich, sweet grass, enjoying the present fleeting moments, without fright, without thought, though many casualties have been lost by the mountainside. Such is the forgetfulness, the resignation and fatalism of animals—and, for all I know, the overpowering and unscrutable wisdom of animals.



*This will be home until the end of summer. They will live on hard-tack and sleep on hard beds, with only each other and their dogs and sheep for company, until the season finally ends.*

# Manitoba Crop Insurance Prospects Poor

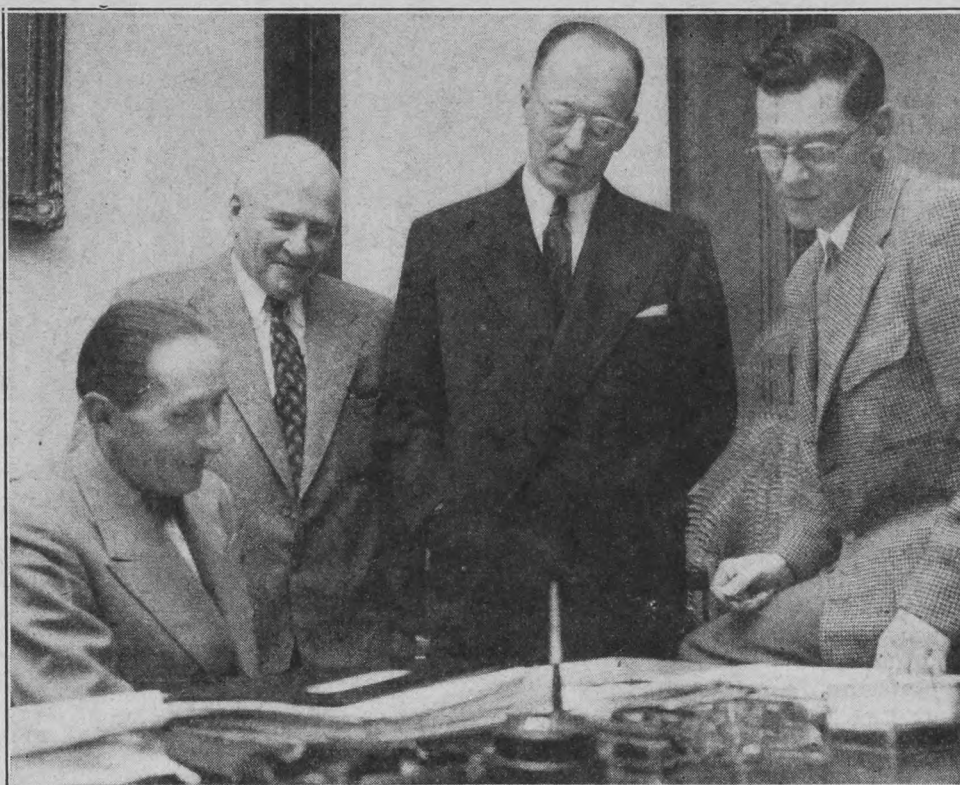
TEN months ago the Manitoba government appointed a Crop Insurance Commission. The Commission was empowered to study the feasibility of establishing a provincial government crop insurance program in Manitoba. It was also instructed to examine the operations of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act within the province.

In the report, which has recently been completed, the Commission concludes that the potential costs of crop insurance are such that, within the province, there is "no apparently available body of assets or resources substantial enough to maintain a crop insurance program, either voluntary or compulsory, in a solvent state." In other words, it is thought that costs could be so large that, premium income failing to meet indemnity charges, the necessary underwriting by the provincial government could reach such proportions that it might tax the resources of the province far beyond capacity.

With regard to the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, the Commission has concluded that the so-called surplus of levies over indemnities, that has continued in Manitoba over the 15-year history of the Act, is likely to disappear if the operation of the Act is considered over a longer period of time. The report suggests that this surplus will become a substantial deficit if crop experience in Manitoba in the future repeats the experience of the past. In their view, the amount of money available from the one per cent levy on wheat, oats, barley and rye would not be sufficient to reduce adequately the impact of crop hazards in the province; for this to be accomplished very much larger resources would be required.

THE Crop Insurance Commission was appointed by the Manitoba government following very widespread criticism in Manitoba of the operation of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. In the report a number of criticisms, expressed by farmers at the country hearings of the Commission, are enumerated. Criticisms include: (1) Manitoba's poor collection showing relative to Saskatchewan and Alberta, (2) the size of the qualifying area, (3) the smallness of the payments to a farmer who does qualify, (4) the encouragement of the production of crops on marginal lands as a result of the operation of the Act, (5) the fact that livestock feeders pay little or no levy, but may collect an indemnity, (6) the failure of borderline cases to qualify, (7) the common use of wheat as a yardstick for determining eligibility, (8) the failure to pay on land which has not been seeded, due to flooding or other causes, and (9) the failure of the Act to make provision for larger payments to farmers who have large farms and so incur greater production costs.

The most widely voiced of these criticisms is related to the fact that



The Hon. R. D. Robertson, Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, and members of the Crop Insurance Commission: W. F. Crawford, W. G. Malaher (chairman), and Ralph Hedlin.

## Fact finding commission reports unfavorably on the feasibility of a provincial crop insurance scheme

by RALPH HEDLIN

until the payments were made following the crop losses of 1954, the total levy in Manitoba was almost nine million dollars in excess of payments made to farmers, while in both Saskatchewan and Alberta an almost exactly opposite situation prevailed. Although payments on 1954 crop losses cut this Manitoba surplus almost in half, Alberta and Saskatchewan also received larger payments and the relative position of the three provinces was not appreciably altered.

Collections in the prairie provinces under P.F.A.A. from 1939 until March 31, 1955, totalled \$85,767,933.25. Manitoba farmers paid \$13,262,195.94 of this total, Saskatchewan farmers paid \$47,916,056.87, and Alberta farmers paid \$24,569,783.93. Pay-

ments made to farmers for approximately the same period amounted to \$8,203,493.77 in Manitoba, \$126,352,761.08 in Saskatchewan and \$42,477,032.05 in Alberta. Manitoba farmers criticized the Act on the basis that, under its operation, the farmers of Manitoba were subsidizing the farmers of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The report points out that the transfer of payments made under P.F.A.A. is not limited to a province-to-province transfer. There are also transfers within provinces. The relatively larger assistance given to Saskatchewan and Alberta does not fall evenly over these provinces, but tends to repeat in certain poor-yield, or drought, areas. Transfers from some northern and eastern regions of Saskatchewan to the

central and south and southwest-ern parts of the province have been quite as great as the transfer of Manitoba payments to other provinces. Transfers have also been substantial within Alberta and within Manitoba. Although Manitoba as a whole has built up a surplus of levies over indemnities, some parts of the province have collected substantially more from P.F.A.A. than they have paid into it.

THE Commission was instructed to "determine the application of present one per cent Prairie Farm Assistance Act levy paid by Manitoba farmers, if such levy was used only in Manitoba." The conclusion reached was that the funds collected would be inadequate to meet costs of any type of all-risk crop insurance and that, over a long period of time, the funds would do no more than continue P.F.A.A. as it presently operates.

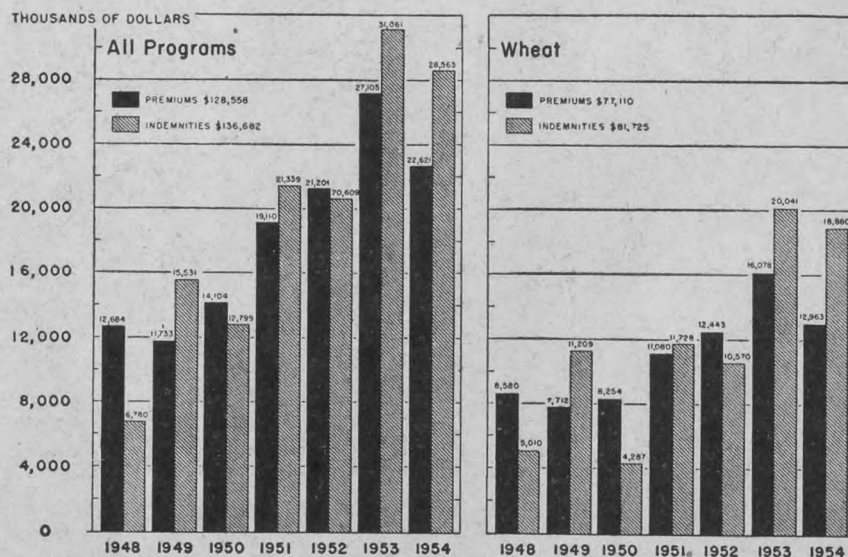
In an attempt to determine the extent of the surpluses, or deficits, that might be built up over a rather longer period of time, the Commission calculated levies and indemnities within Manitoba for the period 1926-54. The result of the calculations is a total levy over the period of about \$17 million, and indemnities of just over \$30 million, leaving a deficit of \$13 million that would have to be made up from some other source than the one per cent levy.

It is pointed out in the report that these figures are indicative and not necessarily exact. They are said to demonstrate the likelihood that Manitoba would have had a deficit if the program had started some years before; and the Commission is convinced that, over the years ahead, the levy income will do no more at best than meet the indemnity demands.

In its conclusions to the report the Commission makes two supplementary comments. They suggest that there is no reason to believe that in the future the disparity between Manitoba and the other two prairie provinces will be narrowed. They also give implied approval to the suggestion of farmers that the method provided in the Act for determining which farmers shall be paid, is unjust; and suggest that those responsible for the administration of the Act—the Government of Canada—might well review methods of P.F.A.A. indemnity award.

In a press conference following release of the report, members of the Commission went considerably further in their criticism of P.F.A.A. It was suggested that, in view of the fact that over \$90 million had been paid to western Canadian farmers over the past 15 years, and that this is a substantial amount of assistance, the entire form and operation of the Act might be reviewed, with the object of determining whether or not this money might not be used in such a way as to be of greater value to the agricultural West. It was also sug-

(Please turn to page 44)



The experience of the U.S. Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for the years 1948-54 was unsatisfactory for all programs, as well as for wheat by itself.

*The old and the new in corn harvesting shown here are already in evidence for potatoes and will soon be extended to other special crops.*

**T**HE use of mechanical devices for growing special crops is on the increase in south central Manitoba and other parts of the prairies. Crops such as canning vegetables and potatoes, once thought to be completely dependent on hand labor, can now be handled almost entirely by machinery.

At one time all the sugar beet fields in Manitoba were thinned and weeded by hand. But by 1954, a quarter of the total acreage was partly mechanically thinned, and 75 per cent harvested by machine. This revolution has extended to corn harvesting, too; about 65 per cent of the 1954 sweet corn crop was picked up by mechanical harvesters. On the other hand, canning peas have always been harvested mechanically, while green beans for canning are still picked by hand.

The main reason for increased mechanization in special crop production is one of economy, especially in hand labor costs. These have been an increasingly heavy burden for the farmer since the end of World War II, and but for the advent of specialized machinery, acreages of some row crops would have been sharply reduced from present levels. An additional factor in favor of mechanization is the speed with which machines will do a job. This is doubly important when harvesting a perishable crop during a wet fall season.

This trend toward mechanization has had a marked effect on one particular group of farm workers, the part-time laborer. Special crops, such as sweet corn, green canning beans, potatoes, and sugar beets have enabled many part-time workers to earn a fair seasonal wage. This labor force is usually made up of high school students, housewives, and others from the towns and villages of the area. Seasonal work generally begins some time in June when sugar beet fields are first thinned and weeded. After this work is completed (about mid-July), the green bean harvest starts, and this may last from four to six weeks. Sweet corn for canning is taken to the factory around the third week of August and the harvest continues for another four or five weeks. Potato picking then begins, and this may require a considerable labor force until mid-October. Opportunities in this sequence of field activities, which have been such a boon to seasonal workers, are being gradually narrowed down under the impact of farm mechanization.

New types of machinery don't always work satisfactorily at first, sometimes due to the particular design of the equipment. For example, the sweet corn harvester was initially de-

# Special Machines



for



*New implements for special purposes are constantly appearing, owing to the scarcity and cost of labor and the growth of specialized crop acreages*

veloped for tall-growing varieties and hybrids used in southern Ontario and the principal corn growing states south of the line. Low-growing varieties and hybrids normally planted in the prairie provinces weren't readily harvested by this machine until certain modifications were made. Another factor in the unsatisfactory initial performance of these pickers is that operators are generally unfamiliar with them.

**T**HE green bean crop is produced over an extended harvesting period, and this poses a difficult problem for machine picking. Each picking stimulates the production of more flowers, and subsequently, more pods. Picking by hand may continue for four to six weeks, depending on the soil moisture available. Irrigated bean crops usually produce quite heavily. It would be difficult to design a machine that would selectively harvest pods of a particular size and not damage the plants.

A bean harvester has been developed for canning beans, which strips off all the pods, large and small, at one time. Most of the leaves and some stem fragments come off in the

process, and the rest of the plant is useless for further cropping. In 1954, a field of stripped bean plants in Wisconsin was irrigated immediately after machine harvesting to see if another crop of pods could be produced, but they failed to respond, in spite of ideal growing conditions.

Three experimental bean harvesters have been tested in Wisconsin for several seasons, with results encouraging enough to indicate that machines will soon be made for general use. Green bean harvesters may not be available on the prairies for several years, but it seems certain that hand-picking methods will, in time, be replaced by machines. Although per acre yields are obviously less with mechanical harvesters, when compared with the four or five harvests obtained when hand picking is used, the increased acreages possible with machines are expected to give a satisfactory over-all production.

Most of the canning bean varieties now available are not suited to mechanical harvesting because they don't produce a sufficient quantity of full-sized pods at one time. Plant breeders, however, haven't been negligent in this regard; a promising new green

by  
**CHARLES  
WALKOF**

podded variety, named "Processor," which produces a large quantity of pods all at one time, will soon be available for general distribution.

**P**OTATO production normally requires a good deal of hand labor. Even this crop is now being mechanized, and equipment is available to handle all phases of production. Prairie growers are able to handle potatoes successfully without touching the tubers by hand, from the time the

seed leaves the storage pits in spring, until bins are filled again in the fall.

The problem of potatoes that have large, green, fibrous tops which plug up the digging and operating parts of the harvester, has been solved by the use of special equipment. Kinds of potatoes concerned are those dug for the early market, and the late ripening varieties. Their vines must be removed as completely and economically as possible before digging. A black, poisonous dust, calcium cyanimid (also known as artificial "black frost"), applied about two weeks before harvest, has been used with reasonable success. But this waiting period makes the method somewhat impractical, especially when a sudden market demand requires crop delivery before the treated tops have had a chance to wilt and dry up.

A more practical method developed was to use a rotobearer, a machine which chops the plant tops into small bits and pieces. This consists of a large number of tough, pliable rubber beaters, approximately one inch square and 15 to 18 inches long, mounted on a rapidly revolving shaft driven from the power take-off of a tractor. The beaters can be raised or lowered according to the height of the plants, and in no way damage the potato tubers. Rotobearers are also used to level the tops of sugar beets to ease harvesting operations.

During the past decade prairie farmers growing special crops have benefited by the increase in mechanization. Labor costs have been reduced and, in some cases, a better quality product has been harvested than was possible under the old hand-picking method. Machine operation has given the farmer a greater degree of independence, minus a good deal of the frustration which often accompanies the arranging for field labor, bargaining over rates of pay, and supervising of field work. Introduction of new types of machinery for special crops, which will further simplify tedious farm work, will find the modern tiller of the soil interested, eager, and receptive.

This trend toward complete mechanization might also halt the flow of rural youth leaving the farm to seek an easier life in the city.



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## Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WHEN it was learned last month that nearly 3,000,000 pounds of New Zealand cheese were to be brought into Canada through trade channels—the second importation of the year—there was an immediate and unhappy, if not angry, reaction among producers in this part of the country. Since many of them live within a comfortable driving distance of Ottawa, it is probable that the federal government is well aware of their feeling. Indeed, the government must have known all along how Ontario cheese producers would regard the import of a product that is certainly not in short supply at home.

The Ontario producers have some reason to feel both frustrated and indignant, because they have worked out their own plan to deal with surpluses. Their association takes any surplus that can't be sold domestically during the marketing year, and exports it to Britain. The consequent loss is borne by the members. They have no government price crutch to hold them up in time of trouble. Thus an importation can lead directly to losses for the cheese producers.

Now cheese may not be the most important of agricultural products—though those with a taste for it might wish it were more appreciated by Canadian consumers—but it is as good example as any of the perplexities that face the government.

Just consider the Canadian government's position when it makes one of its periodic protests to the United States on restrictions on Canadian farm products by quota, or tariff, or both. Canada and New Zealand were fellow protesters against the United States, when quotas against foreign cheese and other dairy products were imposed a few years ago. If Canada were to follow a similar policy (and it already does, as a matter of fact, with respect to butter) on a broad front, its arguments would carry less weight at Washington.

As one trade department official remarked the other day on this point: "If we had kept out this New Zealand cheese, we would have lost our amateur standing entirely."

What would happen if the imports reached really large dimensions is another matter. As it is, Canada can still tell its neighbor that it tries to practice what it preaches, most of the time. Maybe the Canadian example is having some effect. Washington has removed the restrictions on oats and barley, because it doesn't expect shipments to reach an embarrassing size, but the quota weapon hasn't been thrown away; it can be used again easily enough.

The American attitude is encouraging to the extent that there is an awareness of Canada's dependence on trade—to a far greater extent than the U.S.—and a willingness to try to help, rather than hurt this country in such vital matters. This willingness isn't always too apparent to Canadians, when they look at the past record. The administration, of course, has to



think of Congress and the voters at home, as well as of its friends across the border.

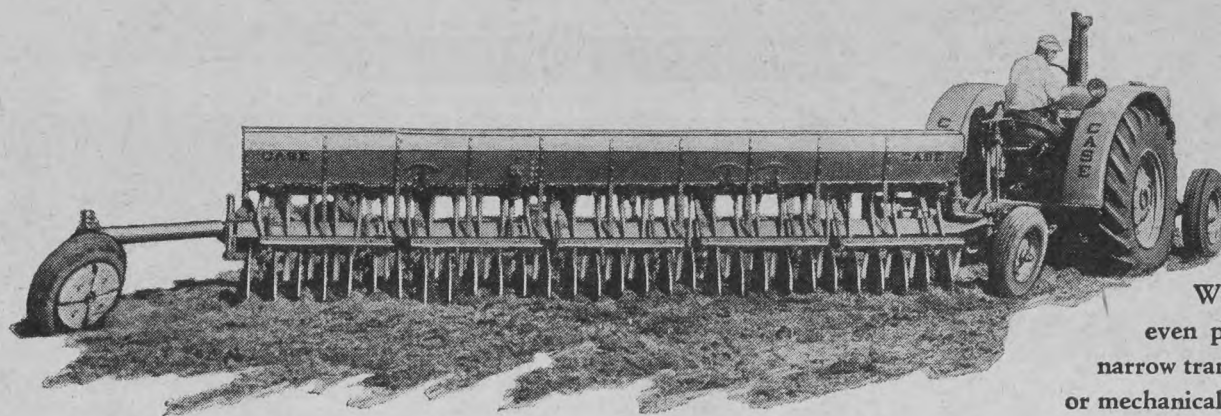
AT the moment, the thing that most worries this country, as far as food products are concerned, is the American wheat surplus disposal program. This was to the fore at the recent meeting here of two teams of Canadian and United States cabinet ministers, and it was about the only matter on which something promising seemed to emerge. It isn't clear yet just how far Washington will go in consulting Ottawa, or to what extent what Mr. C. D. Howe calls the "ground rules" will be changed. The Canadian government wants some assurance that the United States will go easy in unloading its accumulated stocks, and refrain from price cutting in this country's traditional markets. After all, Canada now has close to a billion bushels of wheat on hand, and it hasn't a big home market to absorb the greater part. The Americans understand that well enough, and they say they want to play ball.

These recent top-level talks at Ottawa point up some of the difficulties that the Canadian government—no matter what party controls it—continually faces on the trade front. That cheese dilemma is one example. Then there's the matter of potatoes, which was also before the meeting of min-

Scripture passages that bother me most are the ones I understand.—Mark Twain.

isters on September 26. Here is a case of quite unequal treatment of imports as between Canada and the U.S., and a very natural demand by Canadian growers for a better deal. The Tariff Board has been looking into the potato question all summer.

But if tariffs on potatoes are raised, a good many consumers, who have no great confidence in the quality of Canadian spuds in some parts of the country, will be up in arms. The approach of the free trader (a very relative term nowadays) is to try to induce the other fellow to bring his tariff wall down instead. If that could be accomplished in the case of potatoes, a bigger two-way movement would no doubt be accompanied by greater efforts on both sides of the boundary to raise production standards.



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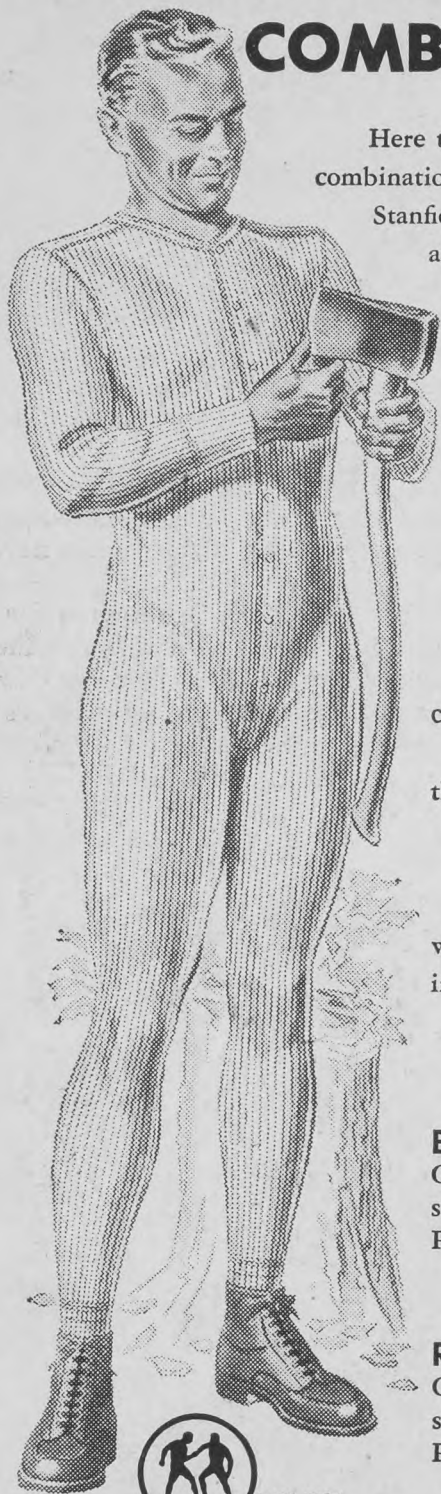
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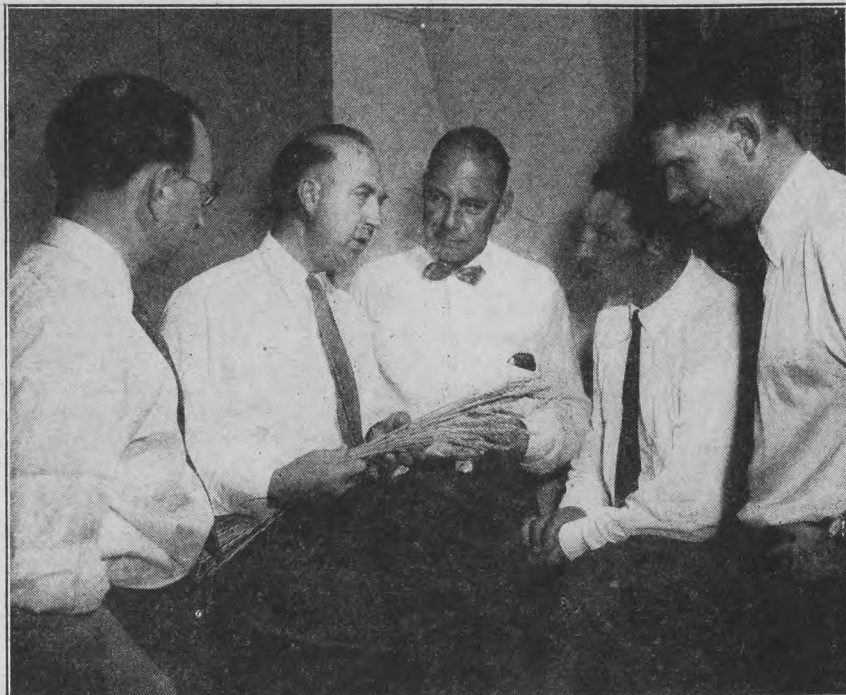
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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



Three members of a touring party from the British flour milling industry examine a sheaf of Selkirk wheat held by Dr. D. G. Hamilton, Cereal Crops Division, Ottawa, and W. J. Brooking, Canadian Wheat Board, Winnipeg.

### Hands Across The Border

QUITE a number of men and machines from neighboring American states have crossed the border to assist Saskatchewan farmers in taking off their 1955 grain crop. Up to September 10 the farm labor office in that province had issued 161 permits covering the entry of 284 U.S. combines, plus 360 trucks and about 516 men to operate the machines. The annual harvest excursion from eastern Canada brought in an additional 617 men, while an estimated 1,000 or more came on their own.

### Hire a Farm Sitter

WHEN you want to go away for a holiday, hire a farm sitter; it works the same way as baby-sitting, and in some parts of the United States the idea is catching on just as rapidly. The plan was started by a retired farm couple when they moved into town a few years ago, and they found it gave them a welcome break by providing a chance to get back on the farm for awhile. The farmer was able to go away with the assurance that everything would be looked after because his "sitters" had the experience necessary to do what was needed. Sometimes the latter were asked just to stay on a place when the owner was reluctant to leave it vacant, at other times they were required to care for stock and keep the farm in normal operation. For pay, the farm sitter may get cash, or be allowed to pocket returns from the milk and eggs. Anyway, farm sitting promises to gain in popularity, and it's an idea a lot of retired farm couples might like to try.

### Wanted—A Grain Deodorizer

HOW do you deodorize grain? That is the question members of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture are asking themselves. Skunks going through combines during har-

vesting operations created quite a problem for farmers of that province this fall. Several reported having "threshed" one of the animals while picking up a swath and now they wonder how to remove the strong odor from the combine and grain. The grain is unwanted by the elevators and the combine operator finds it unpleasant to operate his machine afterwards.

As far as the combine goes, reports R. E. McKenzie, director of the plant industry branch, the smell can be removed by washing the affected parts of the machine with gasoline, or solvent, but contaminated grain is a horse of another color, or odor. There is no known method of removing strong odors from grain at present, and the department is open to suggestions.

### New Look At Royal Fair

A WELCOME addition to accommodation at the Royal Winter Fair will be a new three-storey dormitory for herdsmen which has been erected beside the Coliseum, where the exhibition is held. The new building will house about 430, and each floor will have toilet, washroom, and shower facilities, as well as a lounge room equipped with power outlets. Foundation and steel work is such that the structure may be enlarged to meet any future needs, all of which will be good news to herdsmen, who have often had to sleep in stalls, or even the aisles, in the past.

Accommodation under the roofs of the Fair buildings can stable 1,200 horses, 2,200 cattle, 1,000 swine and 1,200 sheep at a time, with ample room for poultry, grain, vegetables, flowers, dairy products, and fruits as well. The main Coliseum seats 7,500 people, and the showing within can accommodate at one time the whole parade of livestock that takes place during the show.

The Royal has become a leading market place in recent years. Wins and sales there last year added more than \$500,000 to the cash income of Cana-

## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

dian farmers. At the auctions, which have become known as the "Sales of Stars," some of the country's best beef and dairy cattle have gone for prices that once reached a high of \$20,000 for one animal.

One of the highlights of the Royal again this year will be the horse show, which will get under way November 10, one day before the main fair opens. Invitations have been extended to 11 countries, and replies of acceptance have already been received from the United States, Mexico, and Ireland. About 1,300 horses are expected to compete, and these will range from one-ton Belgians to Shetland ponies, and from draft Percherons to golden Palominos. Other attractive features will include cooking demonstrations, a live mink show, a large display of tropical fish, a photographic exhibition, and a horseshoe pitching competition. V

### Found— A Cheap Food

A SOYBEAN meal, fortified to produce a compound which yields most of the nutrition of a full meal at a cost of only three cents each, is one of the main weapons of the Meals for Millions Foundation in its campaign to end world hunger. Forty million of these "meals" have been distributed in the world's hungry areas, and the scheme is making steady progress. The multi-purpose food (M.P.F.) is a non-perishable, sand-colored powder which contains mostly protein. In addition to the basic soybean meal, it has iron, calcium, pyrophosphate, niacinamide, and vitamins A, B-1, B-2, and D. Two ounces of the food (three cents' worth) contains roughly the nutritional equivalent of a meal consisting of a quarter pound of a meat, a glass of milk, a baked potato, and a dish of peas, but it lacks the important vitamin C which comes from raw food. As two ounces of M.P.F. contains only 200 calories, or about one-quarter of what a person should get in a meal, it is intended mainly as a food supplement.

The food compound is made in three varieties—unseasoned, seasoned with salt, pepper, and other spices, and fortified with non-fat milk solids. It can be added to almost any food from East Indian curry to American meat loaf without changing the taste, appearance, or consistency. Alone, it can be cooked with water into a palatable gruel in ten minutes' time, or it can be eaten in the powder form. In an experiment in Knox County Tennessee, children given a standard Federal school lunch program meal every day gained 1.1 pounds apiece in four months; others who received, in addition, an ounce of M.P.F. per day gained five pounds.

The Foundation was started by a Los Angeles restaurant owner, Clifford E. Clinton, who once served as a food adviser to the United States Army, and the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. It is a non-sectarian, non-profit organization that exists on funds contributed by thousands of interested Americans, and has its headquarters in downtown Los Angeles. V

# Some plain facts from Goodyear about present day tire prices:

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- 5. Free tire inspection**—many Goodyear Dealers will visit your farm regularly—inspect your tires—advise you when trouble appears likely—help you plan for repairs or replacements at the most convenient time for you.
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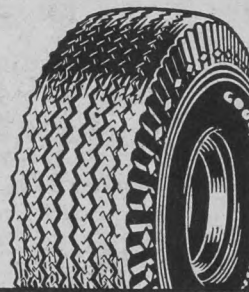
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Here's a quality low-price tractor tire with Goodyear's exclusive "wedge grip" action for tops in traction. Durable tire body assures many years of efficient, trouble-free service.



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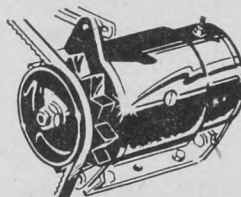
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wraparound rear window is available as an extra-cost option.



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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

# Get It At a Glance

*Items gleaned from agriculture and agricultural industries around the world*

The general farm crop of poultry in Canada this year is expected to be about eight per cent lower than last, and the heavy turkey crop will be at least three per cent lower this year. ✓

Raising sheep on improved pasture is gaining in popularity in Australia. A 12-acre pasture at Hargraves carried more than 15 sheep to the acre for a period of three weeks. The pasture was rested for two weeks then carried another 180 sheep which were fattened for sale. ✓

A large sugar beet industry may be established in southeastern Australia because of recent irrigation projects developed there by the Federal Government. ✓

A permanent change has taken place in the food habits of Oriental countries, according to FAO. Because of ample supplies of cheap wheat, and a postwar shortage of rice, the latter is yielding ground to wheat as the staple food of a billion Asians. ✓

A group of truck farmers in El Salvador, who co-operatively farm 28 acres of land, banked \$5,000 last year, as compared to \$1,000 a year earlier. Reason for the increase is better farming methods taught them by an agricultural expert sent by the FAO of the United Nations. ✓

A major new grain crop for the world is possible in two closely related cereals which have been cultivated in the High Andes for at least 1,000 years. The cereals are *quinoa* and *canihua*, and their food value is similar to that of wheat or milk powder. Per acre yields are about the same as wheat, but they grow on land and in climates that will not support any other common grain. ✓

A proposed dam on the Souris River in North Dakota at a point just before the river flows into Manitoba is being studied by provincial agricultural officials. The dam will collect runoff from irrigation canals being built out from the huge new Garrison dam on the Missouri River so that the water can be used again. If the Souris dam wasn't built, this excess water might flow into Canada, and add to flood problems on the Red River system. ✓

There is little chance that Canada will ever regain the big cheese market she had in Great Britain during pre-war years. However, if quality remains high, our exports could possibly rise to 12 million or 15 million pounds per annum, from the new low of 4,200,000 pounds set last year. To compete with New Zealand shippers, Canadian cheddar producers would have to reduce their prices by at least ten cents a pound. ✓

The standard of living of Finland is at the highest point in its history. Through breaking new land, the country has regained the ten per cent of its arable land lost to the Russians when the latter took over the 750,000 acres of Karelia. ✓

Rabbit hordes in Britain have been cut in half by the virus disease myxomatosis, which crossed the Channel from France in 1953 and has since raged through every county in the land. By declaring wide areas as clearance zones, in which owners and tenants are obliged to finish the extermination job started by the disease, the Ministry of Agriculture hopes to conserve a major portion of the \$50 million worth of farm produce annually consumed by the pests. ✓

A farmers' co-operative in the Coquitlam district, near Vancouver, B.C., which started 20 years ago with capital of \$250, now takes in about \$150,000 per annum. They are now putting about \$25,000 a year into rehabilitating farmers who have had a few difficult years, and have built their own feed mill at a cost of \$50,000. ✓

With hundreds of different brands vying for consumer acceptance, the popcorn business is running at a record high which has pushed it into a \$375 million-a-year industry. Most of the popcorn grown today is the hybrid kind, first introduced in 1935. Under an endowment from the industry, hybrid research is carried on at Purdue University and Iowa State College, each school growing about 2,000 different varieties. Commercial popcorn is mainly produced in the Midwestern states, and most of the crop is sold before planting. ✓

Russia will harvest substantially larger wheat and corn crops this year, in spite of widespread talk abroad of an agricultural crisis there. There has even been a modest increase in livestock, and new crops from previously unplowed territory have been more successful than any westerner imagined possible. ✓

The St. Lawrence Seaway will mean a saving to western farmers by eliminating cargo transfers and linking the prairies directly with the British market, states Hon. Lionel Chevrier, president of the Seaway Authority. This saving could mean increased profits per bushel or lower prices on export markets, which would lead to increased sales. ✓

The biggest terminal elevator in the world is owned by the Union Equity Co-operative Exchange, a federation of 92 local co-ops in Oklahoma and Texas. It is located at Enid, Oklahoma, and has a capacity of 16.3 million bushels. ✓

Killing of turkeys with carbon dioxide gas is being investigated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is reported to be a painless end for the turkey, and to prevent broken bones and the bruising of meat. ✓

The price of butter in New Zealand has dropped to 40.6 cents (U.S.) per pound. This will cause the Dairy Products Marketing Commission of that country to lose about \$3.5 million on the 112,000,000 pounds still remaining unsold from last year. ✓

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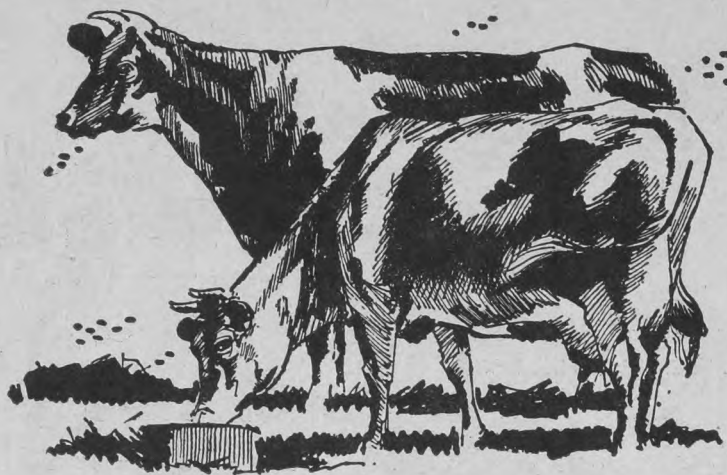
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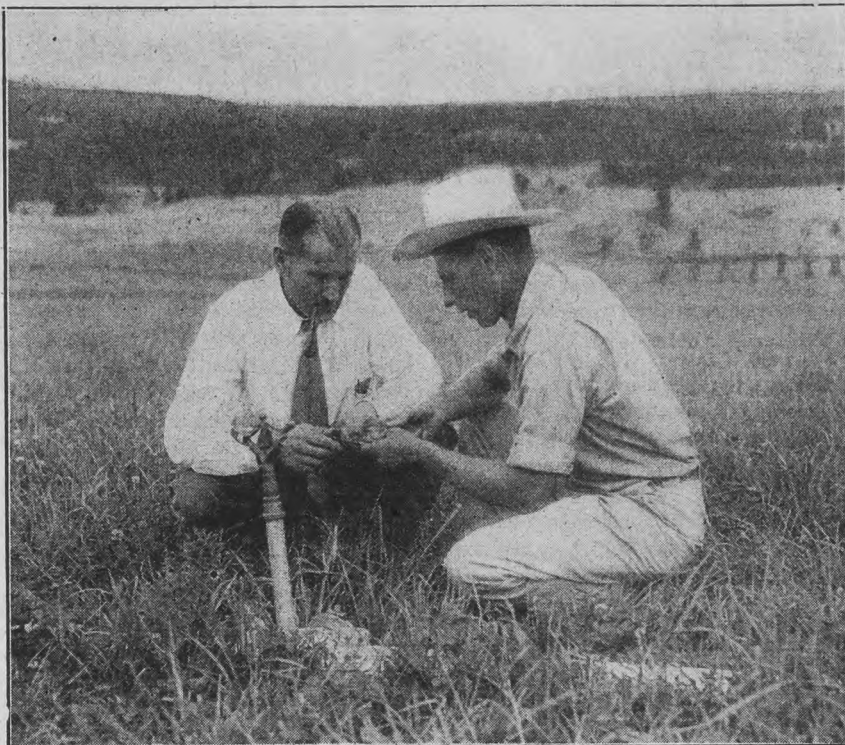
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## LIVESTOCK



William Bulman, "Grassman of the Year," discussing varieties of grass on his B.C. farm with G. A. Luyat, chairman of the Green Pastures Committee.

## B.C. Rancher Grassman of the Year

*Green Pastures Program Committee selects  
Kelowna grassland farm best in district*

"GRASSMAN of the Year" in central British Columbia is William Bulman, of Kelowna, with Clarence Bryson, of Merritt, as runner-up. This is the second year in succession that a beef cattle rancher has won the title.

Bulman's family farm has had a varied history since 1911, including apple, grain and vegetable production, before becoming a ranch and winning the top honor among grassland farms in the district. Using the standard pasture formula, he has raised about 123 beef cattle on 33 acres. He finds a 14-day rotation more profitable, with less chance of bloat, than the normal 21-day period, and grazes 2.7 head per acre for a gain of about 1.7 pounds a head per day, or up to 700 pounds an acre.

He demonstrated his silage-making equipment, with which he puts up over 1,000 tons of silage, to farmers touring grassland farms in the Okanagan valley recently. The tour was arranged by G. A. Luyat, Supervising District Agriculturist at Kamloops, and chairman of the Green Pastures Program Committee, which encourages grassland improvement on behalf of the Field Crops Branch, British Columbia Department of Agriculture, in the North Okanagan, and at Salmon Arm, Kamloops, Nicola and Princeton.

The committee was formed three years ago, and this is the second year of the "Grassman of the Year" competition, which is based not only on the quality of grass, but on each competitor's entire operation.

Don McEwan, of Grindrod, who was placed third, showed the party his fine herd of Jerseys. He started to grow improved pastures in 1947, and now has 47 animals grazing on 18 acres of grass legume sward. His

orchard grass, brome, alta fescue and ladino clover pastures are sprinkler irrigated, and have a rotation of 18 to 24 days. He fertilizes with 250 pounds of superphosphate in the fall, and 100 pounds of ammonium nitrate in the summer.

Mike Freeman's sheep farm at Lavington was also visited. He was formerly an orchardist, but went into pasture production after frost killed his fruit trees. Starting with 100 sheep on 11 acres, he now has 300 ewes and lambs on 34 acres. Manure is the backbone of his grass production, but he also finds 70 or 80 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in summer very effective.

Grassland improvement has become an important factor in local farming, and a number of Green Pasture clubs have been formed. Mr. Luyat said that entries for the competition were received from all districts of central B.C. this year, representing many different types of pasture. V

## Vaccine for Shipping Fever

SHIPPING fever has caused serious economic losses in the Canadian cattle industry. It is estimated that in 1951 Alberta suffered a loss of at least \$500,000 in this way.

Field surveys carried out by the Health of Animals Division and the Division of Animal Pathology of the Canada Department of Agriculture have shown that vaccines prepared from killed bacteria taken from the tissues of cattle infected with shipping fever, are superior to serums as a preventive. Once animals show evidence of infection, however, streptomycin and sulpha drugs provide the best treatment.

## KOW-KANT-KICK

No longer necessary to hobble a cow so that the calf can suck or so you can milk her out. The day of turning out your best milk cow because she is a "kicker" is over. KOW-KANT-KICK is a highly polished circular tube device with a screw-up feature to tighten as it is placed in front of the pin bones. When in place and tightened down, cow stands perfectly still for milking or for spraying.

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PRICES POSTPAID

Applicator	\$6.00
No. 1 Special Rings (25)	.50
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1/2 lb. weights, pair	\$1.60
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## LIVESTOCK

In 1952, a special committee was appointed by the Department to investigate the disease, and a comparison between serum-treated animals at stockyards and animals receiving no serum was made in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The results were inconclusive and there was a more extensive survey under better controlled conditions to test the efficiency of both serum and bacterin (vaccine), in the fall of 1954. A total of 9,000 cattle were under test, of which one-third were given serum, one-third bacterin, and the remainder kept under observation as a check group.

Of those given the serum, 6.5 per cent were sick with shipping fever on arrival at the stockyards, and 35 died. The sick among untreated animals in the check group represented 5.4 per cent, and 30 died. But out of 2,100 animals inoculated with bacterin on the ranch prior to shipment, only 2.3 per cent were sick on arrival and 10 died.

The bacterin and serum contained only the species of bacteria *Pasteurella multocida*. As yet, there is no proof that this is the only bacteria involved in shipping fever; consequently, this is being investigated and a third test will be made. In view of the results of the second test, however, the Federal Department has discontinued the distribution of anti-serum at public stockyards.

## Pressure Sprayer Necessity on Farm

A FARMER'S best friend in today's scientific world might easily be his pressure sprayer, according to R. H. Painter, livestock insect liaison officer, Canada Department of Agriculture, Lethbridge. Dick is especially interested in cutting down the warble fly, horn fly, mosquito, or lice population on western farms, or for that matter, any insect that costs farmers dollars every year. A good pressure sprayer will make this chore possible, he says, and still do a few jobs on the side that will help to make it a good investment.

To get his story across, Mr. Painter has been touring the west with such a sprayer, proving on farms in many different districts that pressure spraying is adapted to farm use.

"It won't hurt the cattle, or sheep, or pigs, that it is used on," he says, "but it surely gets rid of insect pests."

It is ideal for rotenone, lindane or toxaphene sprays in the fall, for lice control, for applying DDT to cattle for horn flies; around the barn for house flies; or for applying the newer chemicals, if needed. A pressure sprayer will lift the scabs off warble fly bumps on cattle and get down to the grubs, or can be used to clean up keds on sheep, or mange in swine. It can be used to disinfect buildings, too, if that is called for.

Dick emphasizes the fact that the sprayer nozzle must have holes that are no bigger than 5/64" for warble control. Lice spraying requires 4/64" holes, fogging 2/64", and the machine must put up 400 pounds of pressure and deliver seven gallons per minute.

But such a machine can be fitted for field crop spraying, and will fog a barn

or wash machinery or motor cars. If a ball game or fair is in the offing, it will clean up the grounds for either of them. "In fact," Dick argues, "such a machine is almost a necessity on today's farm."

## Supplementing Community Pastures

ALL of the seven community pastures in the district of Albert Kirk, agricultural representative at Kerrobert, Saskatchewan, have been filled to capacity this year. Additional cattle have grazed fields at home, and with so many farmers turning to livestock, says Mr. Kirk, the feed situation is serious. There is no back-log of feed to carry livestock over a dry year.

To encourage greater grass and hay production, the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture has seeded demonstration mixtures in many areas. These include crested wheatgrass and alfalfa; intermediate wheatgrass and alfalfa; and Russian wild rye and alfalfa.

"The aim," says Kirk, "is to seed an acre of tame grass for each head of livestock on the farms, as a supplement to feed that cattle get from community pastures and rangeland. Soon, we will have to grow grass either to feed livestock, or to plow down, so the soil will absorb the rain."

The situation has improved. The Department offers seed at reduced prices, and whereas only about 20 farmers ordered seed through the Kerrobert office three years ago, over 80 asked for it this year.

Among those who realize the value of grass is Eugene Weiler, who says that when the land was new, the fibre was worked out of it in the struggle for "good black fallow." The field didn't stop blowing for five years in the thirties, and then, for a time, it wouldn't grow even a weed. Now the entire field is down to grass. A heavy sod of crested wheatgrass saved it, and windstorms cannot carry it away again.

Alfred Backhouse, of Fusilier, who has 75 cattle, seeded a ten-acre piece in 1953 to ten pounds of brome, two pounds of alfalfa and one-half bushel of wheat to the acre. He stacked a heavy cut of hay from it last year, and this year it is better than ever. He also has a 30-acre piece seeded in 1945 to brome, and in one year took 47 loads off it.—D.R.B.

## Simple Test For Mastitis

MANY farmers are familiar with the use of a strip cup to detect the onset of mastitis in their cows, but have often been reluctant to use it every day on account of the time it takes to clean the screen in the cup.

A new idea from the United States is the substitution of a shallow black plate for the screen. The plate has a hole in one edge to allow milk to flow down into the cup, and as the milk passes over the black background, any abnormal lumps, flakes, strings or blood in it can be easily seen. Furthermore, the plate can be cleaned with one dip in water.



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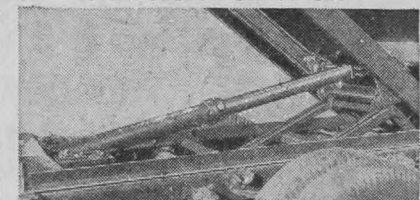
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## FIELD



[Guide photo]  
Jay Moore examines a sample of hay cut in early June, when it was young and succulent. During baling it was treated with sodium metabisulfate powder.

## A Cure For Wet Hay?

*A silage preservative, sodium metabisulfate, shows promise as a cure for "heating" in moist hay bales*

JAY MOORE — a lean, tall Texan from Lubbock, near the Texas Panhandle—paid a visit to Chilliwack, B.C., a couple of years ago and decided that the Fraser Valley was a mighty fine place to live. Since then, he's acquired a farm in the area and has been busy winding up his affairs in the Lone Star state. But not so busy that he hasn't had time to do a little experimental work on a problem which plagues Coast farmers every year—how to keep that first hay crop from spoiling after it has been baled.

In the Fraser Valley, unsettled weather conditions that make field curing difficult and sometimes impossible can be expected during the month of June when the first cutting of forage is ready to come off. Excessive moisture in the bales causes them to "heat" up so that a good deal of the nutrient value is lost or the hay is spoiled altogether. If farmers postpone their cutting until the crop is overmature, they still face a nutrient loss and the forage is less palatable to their livestock. This is where Jay Moore's experiments come into the picture.

In Texas, he had been familiar with the use of the chemical sodium metabisulfate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ ) to preserve grass silage. Farmers using it found that a crop didn't have to be wilted to a certain degree before being put into the silo. This enabled them to operate under unfavorable weather conditions and still harvest their crops at the proper stage of maturity.

This is how it works: In the presence of sufficient moisture, sodium metabisulfate is a powerful reducing agent, capable of using up large volumes of oxygen. In this way, "heating" of ensiled forage is practically eliminated, and it retains more of its green color, carotene (Vitamin A), and fragrant, "fresh grass" odor.

"If it worked with silage, I figured it should work just as well with baled hay," Moore grinned, "so I decided to give it a try."

Sodium metabisulfate is a free-flowing white powder, so Jay's first job was to find a way to get it evenly distributed through the hay before the latter was baled. He decided to make a small metal hopper which would fit onto the hay baler, and feed the chemical into the hay before it entered the press. After a few trials, he had it in working order, and found he was using six pounds of the powder for each ton of hay. But best of all he discovered that it cut the drying time of his hay crop in half! This year he started baling his crop around June 11, when it was still young and succulent. He baled some early in the morning with the fields heavy with dew, and when The Country Guide called on him in mid-July, even this was well cured, had an attractive green color, and an almost new-mown hay odor.

Jay Moore's success with sodium metabisulfate has aroused a lot of interest in the chemical, both as a silage and hay preservative. In tests run on farms in the Ladner area under the direction of Department of Agriculture officials, treated hay was baled which contained from 21 to 51 per cent moisture; protein tests were also run to see if the action of the chemical enabled the bales to retain more carotene and protein.

The experimental farm at Agassiz has been using sodium metabisulfate on silage for the past three years, but, until lately, it hasn't found too much favor because it carried a heavy import duty that made it rather expensive to use. Now however, silage grade metabisulfate is being admitted duty free. To date, its use in hay is still in the experimental stage.—C.V.F. V

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1550x20	10	rib	used-A1	\$30.00 ea.
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Suitable for use with all makes and models of farm tractors or engines, ensuring use of proper pulley size. Low speed—high output, steady even arc. Light weight, ideal for tractor drive. Comes to you ready-to-operate, complete with INSTRUCTION BOOK—all set to handle any type or size of job on farm! Even at double the price, you won't find another welder that offers all these features!

Over-sized, grease-sealed ball bearings for life-time service; air-cooled commutator, dial type rheostat for pin-point control; high-low range switch (low range gives low heat control for light work), choice of mask, flat, or V-belt pulley, cable, 10 lbs. rods; extra-special heavy duty rod holder, stationary or portable. 200 amps. continuous rating, 250 amps. intermittent rating, 24-40 Volt D.C.; 2,600 R.P.M.

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delivers the welder to your station. Here's how it works:

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- Hitch is of extra heavy channel material.
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## FIELD

### New Winter Barley Variety

WINTER barley is becoming more popular each year in central and southwestern Ontario, and yields are often higher than for spring barleys, particularly in the southwest, according to W. W. Snow, extension specialist of the Western Ontario Agricultural School, Ridgeway.

Although winter barley is not as winter-hardy as wheat, especially where the soil is heavy and not too well drained, a new variety licensed for sale in Canada recently, has a good performance. Named Hudson, this variety is winter-hardy, and may often be grown successfully under conditions that would eliminate other varieties, such as Wong. Hudson stands well, and is better in this respect than Tennessee, which has been regarded as the standard for winter-hardiness.

Southwestern Ontario is recommended as best suited to winter barley production, but some of the central areas of the province can produce good crops if a winter-hardy variety is used. Winter barley matures earlier than other common small grains, and is often ready for combining or threshing two weeks before winter wheat. This spreads the harvest season, and helps to reduce the pressure of work at a busy time. V

### Weeds Cause Enormous Losses

A STUDY of the effect of weed competition on growing crops was undertaken by the Plant Science Division of the University of Manitoba from 1952 to 1954. Wild mustard was selected as the competing weed, with a low of ten, to as high as 400 plants per square yard. There was considerable variation in yield, depending on the density of the weeds, but 100 mustard plants per square yard proved almost as damaging to oats and barley stands as 200 and 400 mustard plants respectively, and there was a marked yield reduction as compared with weed-free plots.

Wheat without weeds yielded an average of 33.9 bushels an acre. With 100 weeds per square yard the yield was 21.1 bushels, or 36 per cent less. Barley yields dropped from 47.1 bushels to 29.5 bushels, or 36.5 per cent; oats from 125.7 bushels to 75.4, or 40 per cent; and flax from 17.9 bushels to 2.4, or 88 per cent.

Another test, in the Red River Valley, comparing plots sprayed with a selective chemical with unsprayed plots, showed that spraying increased yields of durum wheat 11 per cent, bread wheat 14 per cent, barley 75 per cent, and flax 90 per cent.

H. E. Wood, chairman of the Weeds Commission of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, who has reported these tests, also draws attention to the importance of assessing weed losses through dockage, based on car receipts of Canadian grain at terminal elevators. The Board of Grain Commissioners reported that in the 1953-54 crop year this dockage amounted to 2.13 per cent, or no less than 584,000,000 pounds out of a

total gross receipts of 27,397,757,000 pounds.

Add to this the dockage removed at local elevators and that contained in grain kept on farms for feed and seed, says Mr. Wood, and it is obvious that weeds in the form of dockage are responsible for enormous losses. V

### Round Corn Crib Recommended

ED BRUNS, agricultural engineer at the University of Wisconsin, says that round metal corn cribs give the cheapest storage per bushel, and better drying conditions for high-moisture corn, regardless of weather.

A metal wall and concrete foundation make the round crib weather and rodent-proof, long-lasting, and low in maintenance costs. Ear corn can be stored and dried, up to a depth of 16 feet. To dry shelled corn, a slatted floor with a perforated metal floor over it is needed. V

### Liquid Fertilizers

TESTS made in recent years by the Field Husbandry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College have shown that liquid fertilizers do not give significant increases in yields, or germination, of field crops.

In field plot tests, oats and barley yields were much the same as those produced with standard fertilizer. Liquid fertilizer was also applied to seeds of legumes, grasses and cereal grains before planting, but no significant increase in the percentage germination was evident.

The Advisory Fertilizer Board of Ontario has pointed out, however, that liquid fertilizer for house plants, greenhouses, intensive garden production and side dressing may be very effective. It is also useful for increasing the growth of plants in flats, for overcoming transplanting shock, and to re-start plants after a setback by drought or other factors. V

### Prickly Pear Takes Rangelands

HUNDREDS of acres in southern Alberta, formerly used for grazing, have been overrun by the fragile prickly pear, which is so named because its tips are easily broken off.

The Experimental Station, Manaberry, has tried fall cultivation and seeding to crested wheatgrass, which not only failed to control the pest, but destroyed the native grasses, and no crested wheatgrass was established. The method was, therefore, thoroughly unsatisfactory.

However, results have been more encouraging with chemicals, of which 2,4,5-T (butyl ester) has shown the most promise. The cactus was treated in early July, and by August the growth was retarded, and the tips were brown and decaying. Three years later, without further treatment, it was almost eradicated.

The research men say that 2,4,5-T, applied in early July, at 38 ounces of acid equivalent per acre, might find a useful place in controlling the encroachment of this cactus on rangelands, but that it is not satisfactory when applied at lower rates. V

## HORTICULTURE



The two displays pictured here, flown to the Provincial Horticultural Show at Calgary, promise appreciable future development in the far north country.

## The Provincial Fruit Shows Are Over

PROVINCIAL fruit shows in the prairie provinces are relatively new. Saskatchewan was the first to establish such an event, and held its first provincial fruit show at Saskatoon, in 1944. The Manitoba Horticultural Association has been in existence since before the turn of the century, but provincial fruit shows in combination with flowers, vegetables and honey, began only in 1950. The show held in Winnipeg this year was therefore the sixth.

In both provinces the provincial show moves around from year to year. In this way, especially in Saskatchewan, where distances are greater, more of those interested in the development of horticulture in the province are able to visit the provincial show at least once every few years.

This year the Manitoba show had 50 fruit exhibitors, and 167 entries. So far, it has never been as large as the Saskatchewan show, which, this year at North Battleford, had 400 entries, the highest number since 1948. Some of the classes are quite large. In classes for apples, Heyer No. 12, at North Battleford, had 24 entries. There were, surprisingly, 46 entries in a special class for fruits grown north of Township 46 in Saskatchewan. This line runs north of North Battleford, Saskatoon and Hudson Bay Jct.

Despite the off-season date for some fruits, the exhibits at North Battleford this year included gooseberries, raspberries, currants, pears, grapes, sour cherries, yellow chokecherry and cranberries, in addition to apple and plum classes. In the Manitoba fruit show this year there were classes for strawberries and nuts.

Collections are also called for of varieties of individual kinds of fruit,

as well as displays of fruits of all kinds grown.

This year, for the first time, a provincial horticultural show was held in Alberta, under the auspices of the Alberta Horticultural Association. The event took place at Calgary and served to call attention to the substantial growth of commercial horticulture in Alberta, based on the more than 500,000 acres now producing irrigated crops of all kinds. The development of commercial horticultural crops in the area, now includes 5,000 acres of sweet corn, 4,000 acres of peas, 400 acres each of beans and cucumbers, in addition to commercial acreages of a few other crops.

Perhaps most striking to those interested in the development of horticulture in the prairie provinces, were the two exhibits from experimental stations at Fort Vermilion (about 200 miles northwest of Peace River town) and from Fort Simpson, roughly 1,400 miles northwest of Calgary. The significance of these exhibits was not in their size, but that despite the short growing season, and the fact that it was still August when the exhibits were flown to Calgary, tomatoes transplanted outdoors at Fort Vermilion on June 7, were ripe and firm. Netted Gem potatoes of creditable size had already been dug; a 16-inch vegetable marrow sown July 1, was included in the exhibit, as well as a cauliflower nine inches in diameter, and other vegetables such as lettuce, cabbage, green peppers, yellow squash and sugar pumpkins. From the far north station at Fort Simpson potatoes and summer turnips were on display (as well as oats, Redman wheat and Olli barley sent along for display in a wheat country).

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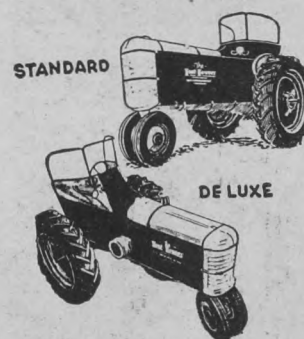
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### POULTRY



A deciding factor in egg quality is the manner in which the eggs are handled. They should be gathered often, and cooled as rapidly as possible.

## Producing Quality Eggs

Grade A and Grade B eggs cost the same to produce, but returns for the latter are a good deal lower

THE quality of eggs on the market depends on four individuals in the production chain: the breeder, producer, wholesaler, and retailer. Egg quality declines from the time it is laid, and the actual speed of this decline depends on the make-up of the egg itself. The first link in the production chain, therefore, is the breeder who produces the laying stock.

Various strains of birds produce eggs which differ in albumen quality, thickness of the egg white, shell strength, and freedom from blood spots. Although breeding has been found to be an important factor in improving these traits, no genetic correlation has been found between the number of eggs laid by a hen and egg albumen quality. Since a strain of birds is recognized mainly for its egg producing ability, a breeder couldn't select for high albumen quality without causing some decrease in his average egg production. Since there is still much to be done in improving egg production, a breeder cannot afford to place too much emphasis on albumen quality, unless it is at a very low level in his birds, or his eggs have a high incidence of blood spots. In the latter case, he would have to improve his flock by selection or other breeding methods because eggs with blood spots are an almost complete economic loss.

The next man on the production chain is the egg producer. His management and feeding practices, and how he handles the eggs after they have been laid, will be a deciding factor in egg quality. It is well known that quality drops rapidly if eggs aren't cooled soon after laying, and then stored in a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees F. Humidity of the egg room is also important, and to be adequate, should be kept at around 65 per cent. The poultryman who produces clean eggs, eliminates those with

cracked shells, and delivers his product at intervals of three to five days to the grading station will win a premium price. It costs no more to produce a Grade A egg than to produce a Grade B egg.

Grading station operators play an important role in the production of quality eggs. They must candle, grade, and store them in a suitable place. Eggs may be graded A large, medium, or pullet, or degraded to B and C. The price cuts between the A sizes are small—the real cuts come between A large and B and C. Dirty eggs go down to the B and C grades, as do cracked eggs, or those with poor shell texture. Candling shows up interior defects such as dark yolks and enlarged air cells. The size of the air cell is a definite indication of the age and interior quality of the egg. There is no air cell when the egg is first laid, but the longer it is stored the more water is evaporated through the pores in the shell and the larger the air cell becomes. If eggs are not handled carefully at grading stations they won't conform to the quality assigned to them in the grading operation. The amount of rejects at the station, of course, will depend on the individual poultryman. Dirty eggs are generally a result of failure to keep clean litter in the nests, poor shells can be improved by ample oyster shell in the ration, and dark yolks are usually caused by allowing birds to run at large over the barnyard.

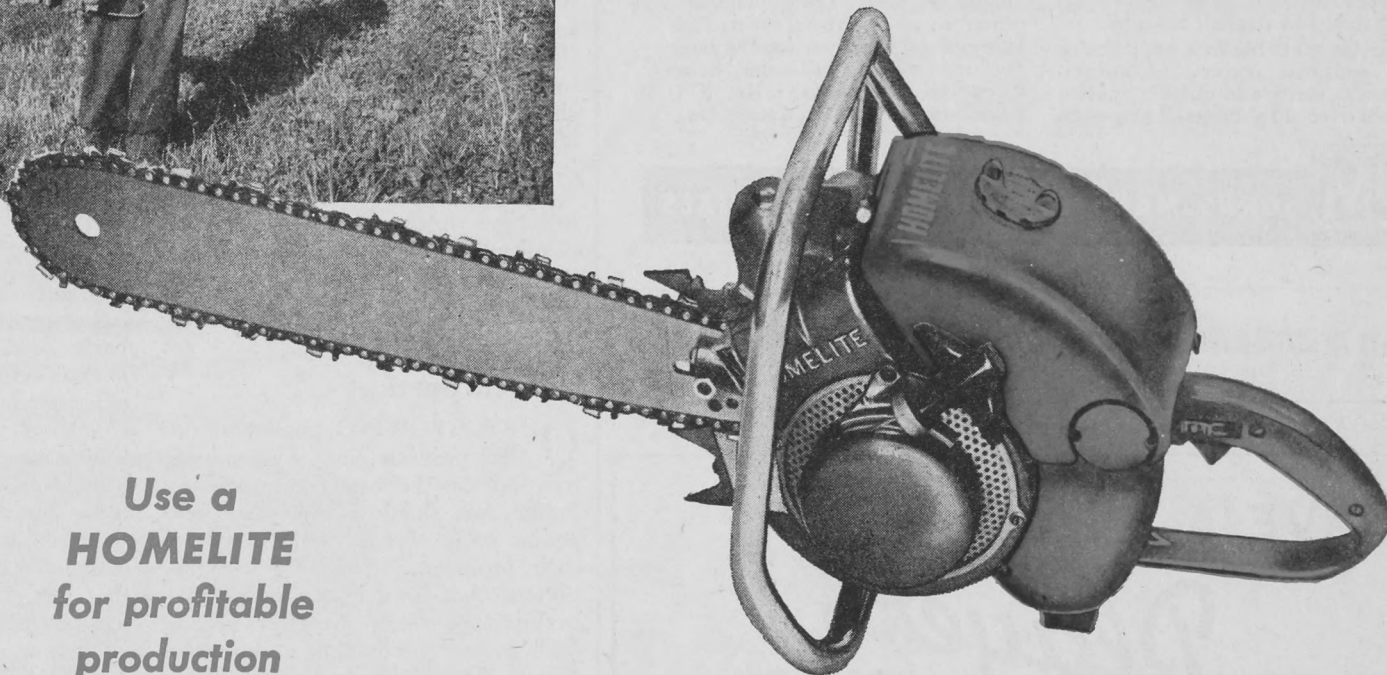
The retailer is the final link in the production chain. Since consumer reaction to the product is largely a matter of impressions formed in the store, the storekeeper's responsibility is as great as the others. If he is selling eggs according to grade, but fails to maintain the holding conditions necessary to preserve their quality, he is actually selling a product which is inferior to that attributed to it by the

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## POULTRY

label and price, and is wasting the efforts of those who were involved before him.

The question is, are you satisfied with your egg grades? If the genetic ability of your strain to produce high quality eggs is deficient you should try another type, or if doing the breeding yourself, you should correct your breeding methods. If the fault lies on your farm, you can control your egg quality by adopting the following simple rules of management: (1) House only pullets that are healthy and in good condition. Housing time is a good time to cull, and when you do, cull hard. (2) Feed a balanced ration. Pullets are potential egg machines, and no machine will operate efficiently on low grade fuel. (3) Provide plenty of clean water. Not only does water constitute about 56 per cent of a hen's body weight, and 66 per cent of the egg, but it ranks far above any other substance as regards to the rate of turnover in the body. (4) Once the pullets are housed in the fall, and before they reach 25 per cent production, they should be kept confined. Confinement to the house aids in disease control, and is an important factor in egg quality. But from three to three-and-a-half square feet of floor space should be allowed for each pullet. (5) Keep all equipment clean. Water fountains or pails should be washed daily, and feeders, etc., as needed. (6) Gather eggs at least three times daily, and cool them as rapidly as possible. Strict adherence to these fundamental management rules will improve the quality of eggs on the average farm. V

### Poultry Types Are Important

QUICK-GROWING poultry strains that produce meat economically may not be the best egg producers. Poultrymen should choose their bird strains to fit the particular needs of their business. To do this, it is important that they know the relative performance of the various breeds, both in egg production and rate of growth. The ability to lay well, or to grow rapidly, combined with a high vitality and resistance to disease, are deciding factors in the economical production of poultry products. V

### Pelleted Concentrates For Growing Turkeys

USE of a growing mash and whole grain, fed in separate hoppers, is the most common method of feeding growing turkeys on the prairies of western Canada. The mash is usually made up by adding a protein-mineral-vitamin supplement or concentrate to a mixture of ground grain in the proportions recommended by the feed manufacturer. To eliminate the cost of grinding, and the difficulty of properly mixing the mash, the Swift Current Experimental Farm has been working on a feeding system whereby the concentrate can be pelleted and mixed with whole grain.

When pellets were fed free-choice in open hoppers, with whole grain separate in other hoppers, the turkeys consumed from 25 to 27 pellets per bird during the period from eight to

28 weeks of age. As 16 to 18 pounds during this period is considered to be sufficient, free choice of pellets encourages the birds to eat more than is economically sound, hence the need for mixing the concentrate with the grain. To the amount of whole grain normally consumed by his birds in one week, a grower should add the amount of supplement required by his particular flock for that period. Thus a flock of 100 turkeys, at say 15 weeks of age, which consumes about 250 pounds of grain per week, should have 100 pounds of concentrate pellets mixed with their grain ration.

When pelleted, the supplement should provide one pound per bird per week from eight to 16 weeks of age, three-quarters of a pound from 16 to 22 weeks of age, and one-half pound per week from 22 to 28 weeks of age. V

### Cheaper Poultry Feeds

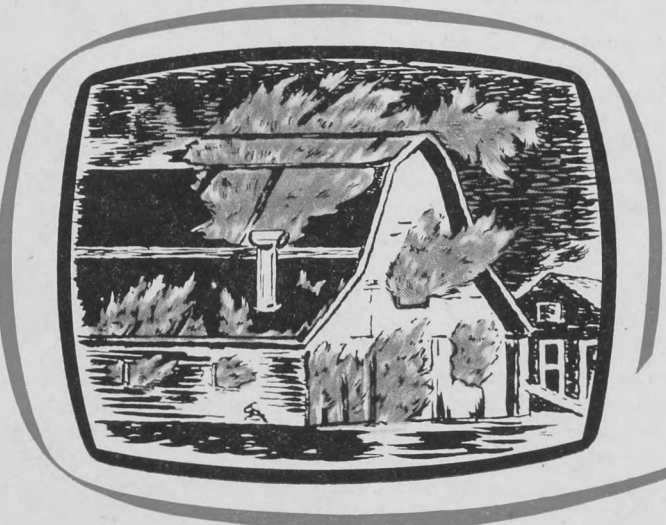
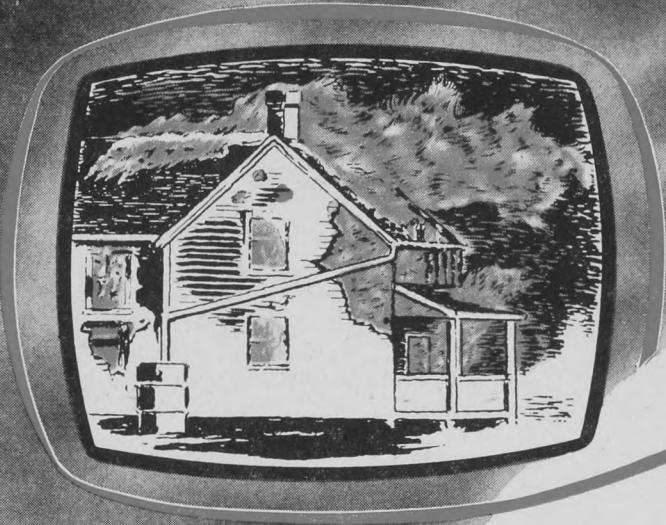
THE use of barley in broiler and laying rations could result in cheaper feeds according to investigations now in progress at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. To date, high energy broiler and laying rations have contained very little of this grain because of its high fibre and low energy content, although it has been used in limited amounts in scratch grain mixtures fed to range stock or laying stock.

The results indicate that when barley was used in a mash ration at levels greater than 20 per cent, weight and feed efficiency were reduced, but rations containing up to 50 per cent barley feed in the pellet form resulted in satisfactory weight gains, and feed efficiency was only slightly reduced as compared to regular high energy broiler rations. This suggests a definite promise of decreasing feed costs by using barley for broilers. Similar tests with laying hens fed all-mash rations containing 60 per cent barley showed that the grain supported satisfactory egg production. V

### Abolish ROP Sired Chick

THE Federal government has announced that it proposes to abolish the ROP sired chick grade next year, but grades for the individual pedigreed chick and the ROP-bred chick will remain. In the top chick grades the individual pedigree is known, and in the ROP-bred chick the breed of both male and female sides is also known, but there is unknown breeding on the female side in the ROP sired chick when it is bred to females of any breed in an approved flock.

"Federal authorities have come to realize that, by pushing the sale of ROP cockerels, they have only succeeded in mongrelizing purebred chicks," states G. R. Wilson, Poultry Services, Ottawa, when queried about the change in regulations. The proposal now is to use the females of the established strains among breeds, with hatcherymen and breeders accepting the responsibility to use strain crosses or breed crosses that will produce the type of chick needed for poultry meat or egg production. V



# FIRE

## PLAYS NO FAVORITES!

You **NEVER** can tell  
when or where **FIRE**  
will start  
nor the extent of  
the damage

IN EITHER CASE

**A U.G.G. INSURANCE  
POLICY SAFEGUARDS YOU  
AGAINST LOSS . . .** *Your SURE Shield  
Against Disaster*

- It is **ALWAYS** wise to Insure your valuable property against fire, theft, and other insurable hazards. It is **DOUBLY** wise to do so when you remember present high repair and replacement costs.
- Your U.G.G. Local Agent will gladly advise or assist you in obtaining the right type of policy and protection — Consult Him!

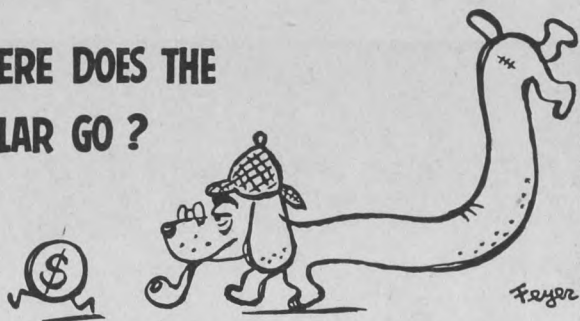
# U.G.G. SECURITIES CO. LTD.

CALGARY, ALTA.

WINNIPEG, MAN.



## WHERE DOES THE DOLLAR GO ?



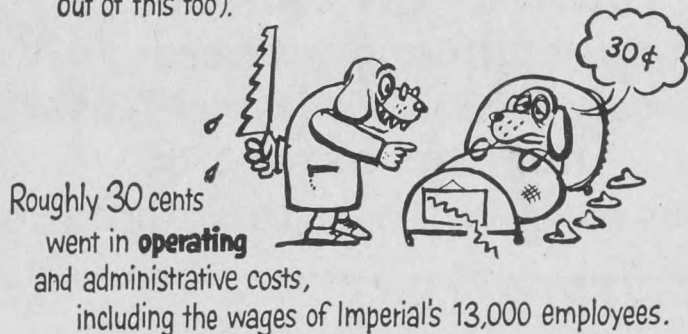
Everyone likes to keep track of the money he earns.



At Imperial Oil, accountants keep **close tab** on every dollar the company receives. Auditors and government tax people **double check**. Of every dollar of Imperial's income last year...



About 52 cents went to purchase **raw materials** including crude oil (we pay freight charges out of this too).



Roughly 30 cents went in **operating** and administrative costs, including the wages of Imperial's 13,000 employees.



10 cents went in **taxes** to federal, provincial and municipal governments.

(This did **not** include provincial road taxes.)



About 4 cents went back into the business to help **replace** worn-out equipment and provide for future needs.

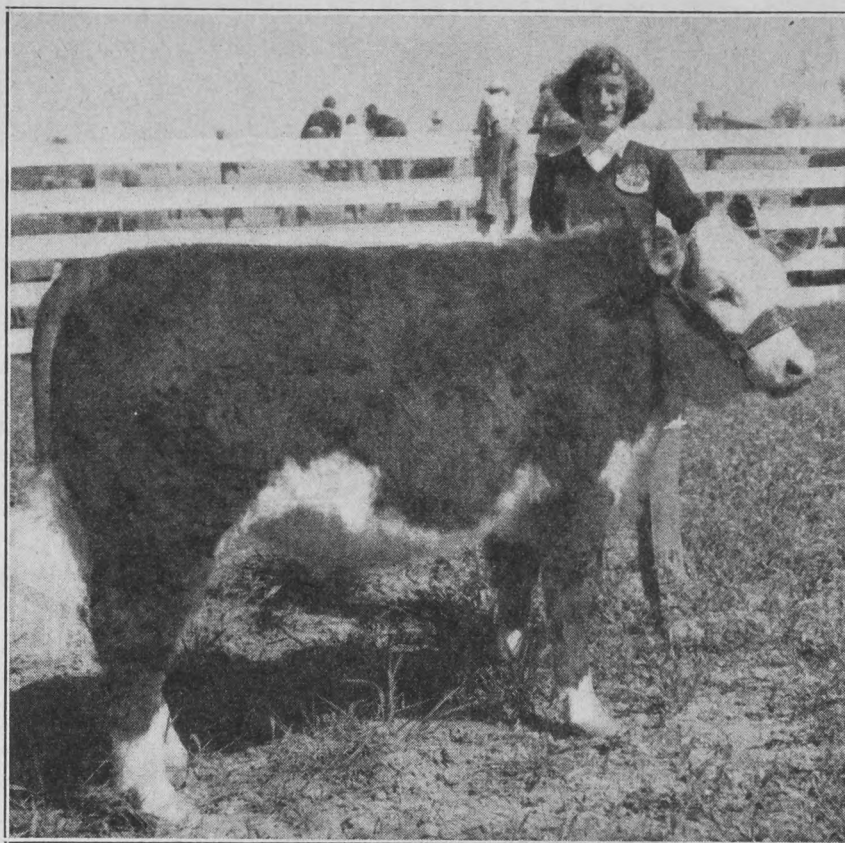


About 4 cents went in dividends to the company's shareholders.



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

## FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Marian Houlton of Nanton, Alberta, 4-H beef club with the Hereford calf that won "best gain on feed" award at the High River achievement day.

## Fast Gaining Club Calves

Attention to details when feeding calves has enabled this 4-H member to win awards two years in succession

**S**TEERS in the ring at 4-H club achievement days are usually judged on the covering of their ribs, on their conformation, which indicates the proportion of steaks and roasts the carcass will yield, and the general appearance of thriftiness. But Marian Houlton of the Nanton 4-H beef club is one who thinks that a more accurate measurement of the latter—in fact, a score for the best gain made during the time on feed—is the best test of all, for a successful winter of feeding by 4-H members. Many commercial cattlemen, used to selling their steers over the scales by the pound, wouldn't disagree with her.

Marian, of course, has her own reasons for her belief. In fact, she has fed her club calves so well during the past two years that each has won the trophy at the High River achievement day for the calf making the best gain on feed during the winter. This year's winner gained 450 pounds from Nov. 20, 1954, to judging day, June 11, 1955. It worked out to an average of 2.3 pounds per day, the best score on the grounds.

Winning two years in succession indicates that Marian knows how to feed steers. She says the secret is attention to details. She feeds the steers herself, right from the first feed—a handful of boiled barley, till it finally is gulping 21 pounds of feed per day—a ration of 12 pounds of barley, five of oats, and four of wheat. She brings it to feed gradually, building the ration around her favorite—boiled barley, and that pot is on the kitchen stove daily during the winter. She adds to it rolled oats, cracked wheat, bran and linseed meal, adds a little loose salt and bonemeal, and

when the steer is coming to full feed, and each additional pound becomes so important, she pours a couple of cups of cane molasses over it to sharpen the appetite of the fast gaining animal.—D.R.B. V

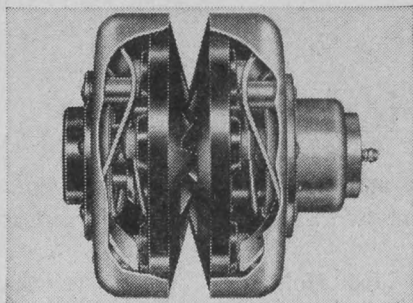
## Royal Fair Approaches

**N**OW that fall is here the thoughts of 4-H members across the country will be turned to the Royal Winter Fair which will open at the Coliseum, Toronto, on November 11. Provincial teams have been chosen, and the lucky winners are looking forward to a week of activity and new scenes that will be remembered all their lives.

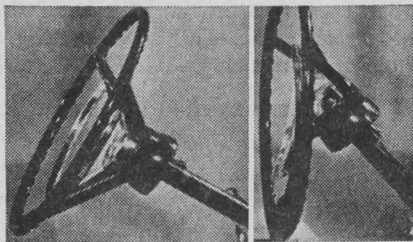
From humble beginnings some 33 years ago, the Royal Winter Fair has developed into the biggest indoor agricultural exhibition of its kind in the world. Described as "Canada's Show Window of Agriculture," the 1955 Royal will be officially opened by Sir Roger M. Makins, British Ambassador to Washington. It will have an extensive exhibit of farm produce, livestock, machinery and equipment, a wonderful flower show, a brilliant horse show, and a variety of other displays and entertainment. The Royal is the only exhibition held in North America with the approval and endorsement of the Royal Family.

A non-profit organization, the Royal turns all available revenue back into prize money each year to encourage still more farmer-exhibitors to participate, and thus provides a valuable service to Canadian agriculture. Exhibits come from every province in Canada, and from the United States and Great Britain as well. V

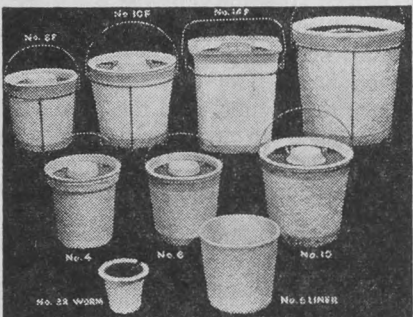
## WHAT'S NEW



Infinitely variable speeds from a constant speed motor are possible with this new Hi-Lo automatic pulley, according to the manufacturer. Moving the motor assembly toward or away from the driven pulley allows the V-belt to run over the various pitch diameters. It is said to be useful for giving different speeds for operating farm and workshop machinery. (Equipment Engineering Co.) (94) V



A five-piece safety package to limit crash injuries has been announced by the manufacturer for 1956. This includes a deep-center steering wheel which slowly gives way under crash impact, safety door latches, anchored seat belts, crash cushioning on instrument panel and sun visors, and special mirrors. (Ford Motor Co.) (95) V



Introducing a new line of molded-fibre bait buckets, the manufacturer claims that the porous fibre allows air to enter, but holds in water. Bucket bottoms and rims are waxed for strength, and lids fit tightly for insulation. Sizes are from four to 20-quart capacity, with 1½-pint size for worms. (Animal Trap Company.) (96) V

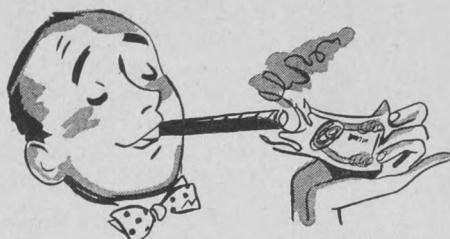


A new manure spreader designed for greater strength and durability has a lighter draft than any other spreader in its class, according to the manufacturer. Capacity 95 bushels, the beaters are driven by steel roller chains on shell-molded sprockets. The beaters and widespread are on anti-friction bearings. (J. I. Case Co.) (97) V

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

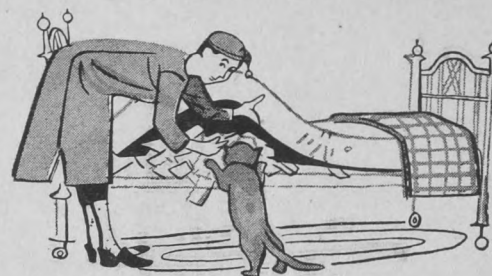
# What you can do with money

Light large cigars with large bills—



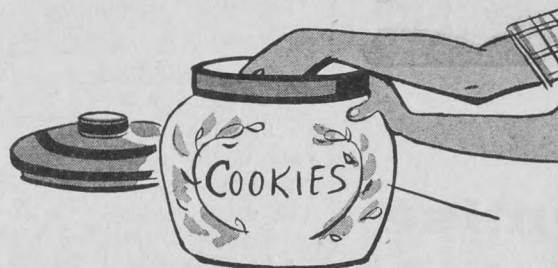
Spectacular, but matches really do a better job!

Stick it under the mattress—



Too lumpy for comfortable sleeping!

Hide it in the cookie jar—



Too risky, Junior always raids the jar!

Spend it all—and fast—



It won't be there when you really need it!

## Buy Canada Savings Bonds

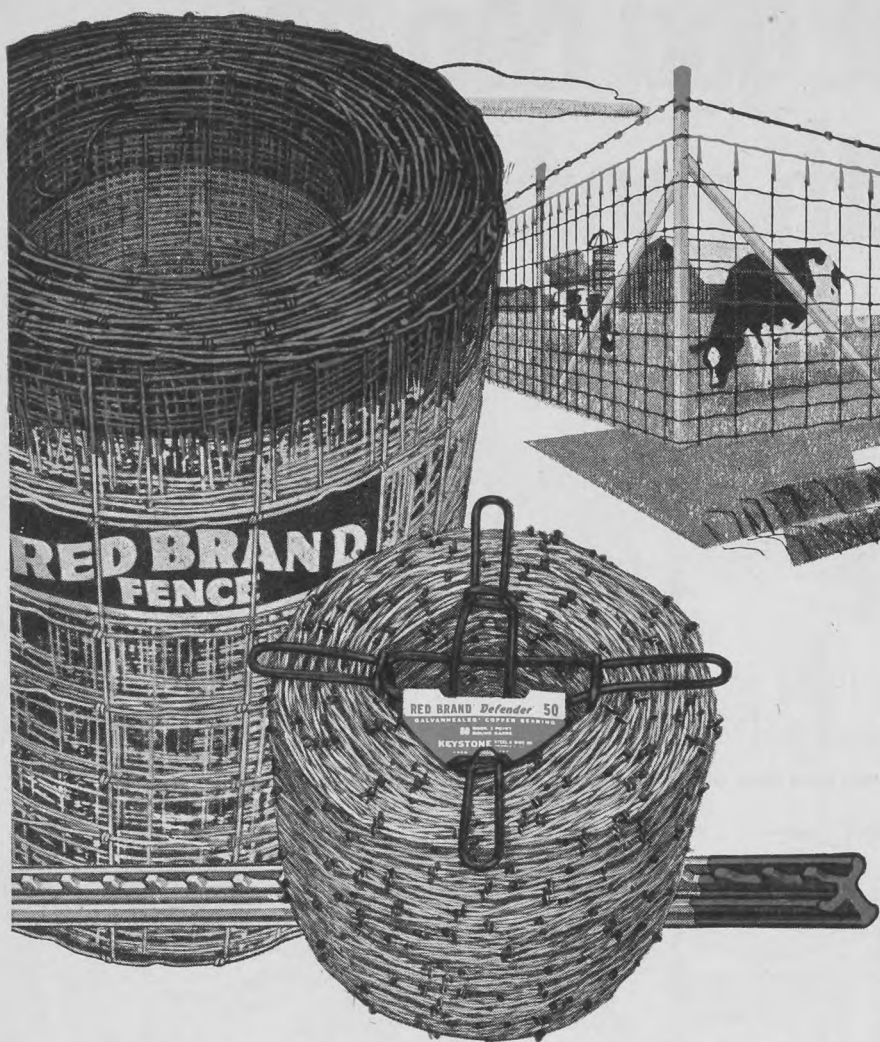
*You can secure your new  
Canada Savings Bonds now through  
Banks, Investment Dealers,  
Trust or Loan Companies*



10th Series pays  
**3¼%**  
interest

Now there you have something, whether you pay all cash or in instalments! They're fireproof and safe too—every bond is registered. They're no good for papering walls but can be used to buy the whole

house. And what a comfortable feeling to know you have the funds for an emergency or opportunity. More than a million Canada Savings Bond investors have that comfortable feeling.



## red barbs that promise RED BRAND quality in barbed wire!

At last you can be sure of top quality barbed wire... at a glance. Just look for the red barb. Red Brand is the only fence that clearly... positively gives you this assurance of quality. We mark it this way so you can buy with confidence... so you will remember through the years that you have the best.

Of course, barbs are galvanized, as well as the wire.

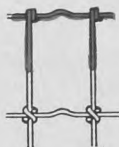
We're proud of the quality. You'll be proud of your farm when it's fenced with Red Brand products. To get the best, insist on Red Brand... barbed wire... woven wire... and Red Top steel posts.

Ask your Red Brand Dealer about Practical Land Use. He'll show you "Willing Acres", the book that explains how you can improve your farm. And your Red Brand dealer will help you start your Practical Land Use plan. See him this week.



### NEW

**RED BRAND Barbed Wire** with the galvanized barb painted red. Your promise of top quality—long life.



### known

**RED BRAND fence** with the top wire painted red. So you can know at a glance that you have the best.



### proved

**RED TOP Steel Posts** with the bright red top. They tell everyone who passes you're a real judge of value.

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## WORKSHOP

### Ideas for That Winter Slack Period

*The long winter months bring their own particular jobs and time to fix things around the farmstead*

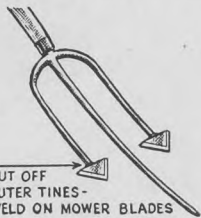
**Emergency Funnel.** To make a handy funnel I tied a piece of string tightly around a bottle several inches below the bottle neck. I set a match to the gas-soaked yarn and, when it had finished burning, poured cold water over it. It will break off smoothly.—M.Mc., Que. ✓



**Saving Paint Brush.** Before using a new paint brush in any oil base paint I put linseed oil into the bristles near the setting; then I wind a band of friction tape tightly around this part. It greatly reduces the time and work involved in cleaning the brush.—S.B., Sask. ✓



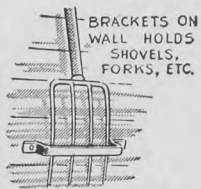
**Handy Bale Fork.** I used the modified fork shown for handling my bales in the feedlot in the winter. The two blades on the outside cut the band, and the center tine will separate the bales. It would also work to weld the mower knife on the center blade.—D.P.W., Man. ✓



**Paint-Free Door Knobs.** If you have a paint job to do, and it includes a cupboard with door knobs, hinges or drawer pulls that you do not want spotted with paint, just apply a layer of Vaseline to those parts; when the painting is finished, if paint has spotted or splashed onto them it will wipe off with the Vaseline. This also works for the glass in windows or doors.—H.S. ✓

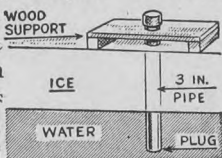


**Fork Bracket.** When forks are leaned against a partition in the barn they are easily tipped and stock can break the handles, or you can drive a tine into your ankle. The bracket arrangement shown holds the fork where it will not get broken or cut anyone, around the barn. ✓



**Spare Ignition Key.** To avoid the possibility of being locked out of my car I keep a spare ignition and truck key under the hood. Mine is sweated to the inside of the air cleaner with a spot of solder, but any inconspicuous place would do. In cars in which the hood is released from inside the car some other place on the frame or body could be used.—O.T., Man. ✓

**Ice Hole Kept Open.** I water through the ice. I wood support and keep the hole open with an iron pipe, three inches in diameter. A larger one might be better. I weld the bottom of the pipe closed, and have a screw cap on the top. When the ice forms I set it as shown. In the morning I pour hot water into the pipe, slide it out of the hole, and the water runs into a bowl that I cut beside the pipe, and the stock can drink. This saves cutting a hole every morning.—P.D.J., B.C. ✓



**Paint Strainer.** A discarded nylon stocking makes an excellent strainer for old paint. I use the top 10 or 12 inches. Tie a knot in the lower end, slip the top over the pail, and pour.—G.M.E., Alta. ✓

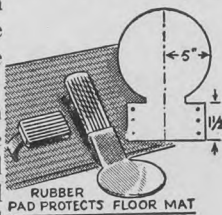


**Salt Block Stand.** With the top half of a cream can, with the handles removed, I made a good salt block stand. The post it is on is 2½ feet above the ground, and the cream can is fastened to it through the neck with nails or a bolt. Holes should be punched for drainage.—M.E., Alta. ✓

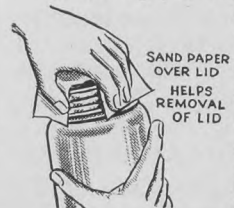


**Hauling In Snow.** I made an outfit with which I can haul loads of feed through deep snow. I got a truck frame with a good rear end and with fair tires; I extended the drive from the rear end to the power take-off of the tractor. The tractor pulls on the load and drives the rear end, so the truck wheels push. If the snow is very deep the outfit can be improved by using chains.—G.T., Alta. ✓

**Floor Mat Protection.** A rubber heel pad cut from an old inner tube will protect the floor pad on your car and keep from wearing a hole where your heel rests. I stitched the top end around the base of the accelerator pedal, as shown.—G.P.L., Sask. ✓



**Removing Jar Tops.** I saw an idea in the February, 1955, issue of The Country Guide for making a wrench for taking the tops off glass jars. I got them off by putting a piece of sandpaper over the top and down the sides, as shown. If your hand slips on the sandpaper moisten it slightly, and you will generally move them.—A.C.J., B.C. ✓



## What's news at Inco?



Fleet experience suggests that savings in battery inspection, and maintenance costs are as important as the long life, temperature and power output charac-

teristics of this new Sintered Plate Nickel-Cadmium Battery. Because this battery does not fume it can be located inside the truck cab or in the back of the bus.

Once a year water is added. Holds its charge in storage. No damage if discharged. The full story is below, and should interest every fleet operator.

# NEW BATTERY LASTS 15 YEARS! INCO NICKEL PLAYS IMPORTANT PART

**Designed for tough conditions, the new Nickel-Cadmium Battery is capable of successful service at 65° below zero and at 135° above. It has extra starting power and low maintenance costs. Inco aided in development of the special materials that made this remarkable battery possible.**

### Here are Facts About the Sintered Plate Nickel-Cadmium Battery

**Ques.** Will it operate in extreme cold and heat?

**Ans.** Types are available which will start an engine at 65° below zero F. Can be charged at 65° below zero F. These batteries will not freeze until the temperatures drop below 75° below zero F., and will not be damaged even if they are frozen. At the other extreme these batteries will operate successfully at temperatures as high as 135° F. without damage to the battery.

Batteries are compact because thin, flexible nylon and plastic separators are used.

**Ques.** What type of battery is it?

**Ans.** The new Nickel-Cadmium Battery is an alkaline battery, employing potassium hydroxide, rather than acid, as the electrolytic compound.

**Ques.** What is the Nickel-Cadmium Battery suitable for?

**Ans.** The Nickel-Cadmium Battery can be used in any type of service where the conventional type of storage battery is employed. No modification of the charging system or of the electrical system is required.

**Ques.** How about storage?

**Ans.** The Nickel-Cadmium Battery can be stored either charged or uncharged without damage. If stored charged, it will hold its charge for a very long time. At low temperatures there is practically no loss of charge. This means that the battery can be left out all winter and it will be ready for work in the spring. With this battery, fleet operators need no "battery room". Cycling of batteries in stock is eliminated.

**Ques.** How does it compare in size and weight with other batteries?

**Ans.** In a truck or bus a Nickel-Cadmium Battery half the size of a conventional battery will give twice the starting power at low temperatures and is much lighter.

**Ques.** Does it give off fumes?

**Ans.** The Sintered Plate Nickel-Cadmium Battery does not give off noxious or corrosive fumes. It can safely be installed under the rear seat of a bus, away from the damaging effect of salt and gravel.

**Ques.** Can heavy-duty types be obtained?

**Ans.** They are giving good service starting railway diesels and operating railway signal systems and in many tough jobs.

**Ques.** Will they soon be available in Canada?

**Ans.** Canadian-made batteries are already available and in use in limited quantities in Canada.

"The Romance of Nickel", a 72-page book, fully illustrated, will be sent free on request. Bulk copies supplied Secondary School teachers.





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#### Dependents:

Under 18 years of age .....**\$5.00**

#### Maximum tax:

For any taxpayer, his spouse, dependents under 18 years of age, dependents between 18 and 21 attending educational institutions and incapacitated children over 18 years.....**\$40.00**

**Early Payment Ensures  
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**Late Payment Means  
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**YOUR PAYMENT IS DUE BY NOVEMBER 30th**

## SASKATCHEWAN HOSPITAL SERVICES PLAN

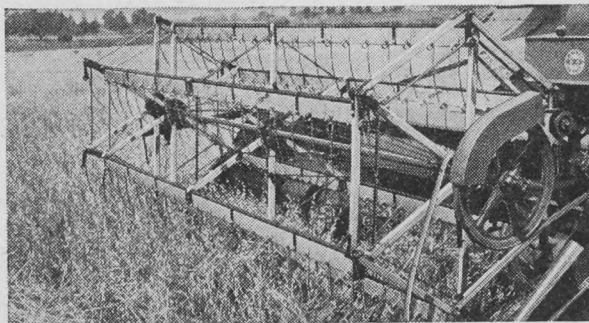
## solved: How to Save Missing Bushels

### A HUME REEL on your harvester does it!

Saves bushels missed or shattered at the most vital point — the cutter bar.

Finger-like tines reach down vertically . . . gently lift the crop.

Gathers more bushels from any field — standing, down, tangled, short or tall.



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Models available to fit all harvesters and windrowers. Talk to your dealer.

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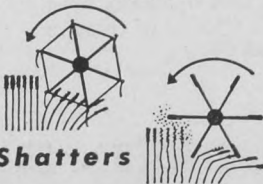
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## No Permit Book Needed Here

*Livestock, forage crops and seed growing plus labor saving make for efficiency on this farm*

by DON BARON

**H**OW much work is required to feed 400 steers over winter?

Not much, if the feedlot is well organized. On the Gordon Ballhorn farm at Wetaskiwin, Alberta, the men would rather feed that number of cattle than milk two cows.

In fact, the entire Ballhorn operation is laid out for labor efficiency. With 400 steers on feed each winter, and 200-300 pigs from the 30 brood sows, only three men, including Mr. Ballhorn, are around most of the winter. But Gordon adds that two could easily do the work.

About three acres, surrounded with board fence, make up the feedlot. The north side is roofed, providing open shelter and a place for bedding. A gate on the south side of the lot opens into the horseshoe-shaped roughage-feeding area, where hay or green feed is hauled in from the stack every few days, and choring means a walk around the edge a couple of times daily to throw up a bit of fresh feed.

Around the yard are three self-feeders for chop. These are filled about once a week, as required. This is a sizable job, because the home-grown feed is ground, balanced with supplement, and blown into the feeders. The sleeping area in the shelter is bedded with straw a couple of times a week. Water from a well is kept warm with a coal fire. And that's just about it. Beef producers have to keep on their toes to compete with that sort of operation.

The hog enterprise is an interesting one too. Sows are farrowed twice a year, in February and August, in separate pens. In a few days, two sows will be put together in bigger pens and finally, half a dozen sows might be nursing their litters in one huge pen. This is all to reduce labor.

Once weaned, the young pigs might be turned outside, or stabled indoors, in pens. Even in winter, growing pigs go outside to run the yard, eat from an outdoor self-feeder and drink from the heated water tank. For pigs that are indoors, a feed supply is stored just across the alley from the feed trough, and again, feeding means a minimum of work. In fact, Mr. Ballhorn says that a grand total of about three hours' work a day will handle the swine chores.

This completes the livestock feeding end of the Ballhorn enterprise, but the field crop program, geared almost entirely to the livestock, is of interest too. About 400 of the 1,200 acres are cropped, but because much of this is sold as registered seed, other grain must be purchased to replace it. The remaining acres grow tame and native grass and hay. He has seeded brome, alfalfa, sweet clover and fescue for forage crops. Steers bought in the spring graze all summer and then go to cover crop in the fall, where they take a little grain before finally going onto feed in early November.

In the black soil belt running through Wetaskiwin, Gordon finds

that his rotation of grass for four or five years or more, then a few years of grain and back to grass again, makes all the difference. He hasn't had a grain delivery permit book for three years now. He says his land can't stand continual cropping, and he doesn't plan to have a permit book again. Everything grown on the farm, if not in the form of seed grain, is fed and sold as meat.

## Potato Growers Eliminate Price-Cutting

**G**ROWERS of certified seed potatoes in the heavy-producing southern part of Alberta have taken some of the cut-throat price competition from their business, replaced it with a selling system based on order and more information, and after the first season, report that it made them money.

W. L. McGillivray, Coaldale, president of the newly established Alberta Certified Seed Growers' Association, points out that a simple agreement among members made in January, 1954, when the association was formed, has shown encouraging results in boosting prices.

Here is how it was done. Growers with potatoes from up to 50, 100, or even more acres, in the bin and ready for market, met to form their association. They represented many districts, and decided to establish a price below which each would refuse to sell.

Each man reported on the likely supply of potatoes in his district. They considered the possible demand, and well aware that a wrong decision could cost them dearly, and despite dire warning by a pessimistic broker that the market couldn't stand it, set their minimum price at \$45 a ton.

**Love is the delusion that one woman differs from another.—H. L. Mencken.**

Later, with spring approaching and their bins still full, they called another meeting. Again the broker gave a gloomy picture of selling prospects at such a price. Again the growers didn't believe him. They were determined that the price should be decided on market conditions, rather than on dark warnings and panicky selling. They sized up the supply situation again, and decided to hold on. Their guess was good. Every potato sold, and with a late spring shortage pushing the price of final deliveries to \$55, the new organization had scored a victory.

**"B**ROKERS deserve an honest pay for handling our potatoes," Mr. McGillivray says now, "but there was too much indication that they sometimes made more than that." An Aberdeen-Angus breeder, too, he compares the potato market with an earlier cattle market, when dealers used to roam the country, often buying cattle away below market price.

## The Old Prairie Trails

**T**HE roads on the prairies were not always straight, as they are today. In the times of the earliest settlements, and long before that date, the miles across the land were traversed on trails that followed the path of least resistance. Today mighty bulldozers push down hills and fill in deep valleys on the prairies to save the modern high-speed traveller the necessity of turning the steering wheel on his fast-moving car. In the old days the driver shouted "Gee" or "Haw" and turned his team of oxen to flank a slough, or high hill, or deep valley.

One of the many famous trails of the prairie west was "The Carlton

Trail." It started on the now-famous Portage Avenue of Winnipeg and wandered westward, until it reached Fort Carlton in north-central Saskatchewan—then part of The North-West Territories. On its winding route it followed the north bank of the Assiniboine River as far as Portage la Prairie, then divided into two trails. After it crossed into the Territories it passed close to where such modern, bustling towns as Melville, Lanigan, Humboldt, and Wakaw now are, and crossed the South Saskatchewan River at Batoche. After this crossing—perilous in times of flood or spring break-up—it was an easy drive to Fort Carlton, the Hudson's Bay Post first built in 1810 and finally demolished in the 1885 rebellion.

There was a branch of the trail

from the Humboldt area to the present Duck Lake area; and if you went this way you crossed a ferry run by Gabriel Dumont, later famous as Louis Riel's lieutenant in 1885.

The trail wound for some 500 miles in the long trek from Winnipeg to Fort Carlton. The typical vehicle on the trail was the Red River cart, ordinarily pulled by oxen, but often pulled by horses. With the approach of more modern times a brisk team on a buckboard could be seen, and horseback riders appeared in fairly early times. Fast travellers would cover the distance in 25 days, but no man was disgraced for taking ten days longer to complete the 500-mile journey.

Many men now famous in western Canadian history and agriculture travelled the Carlton Trail. In 1857,

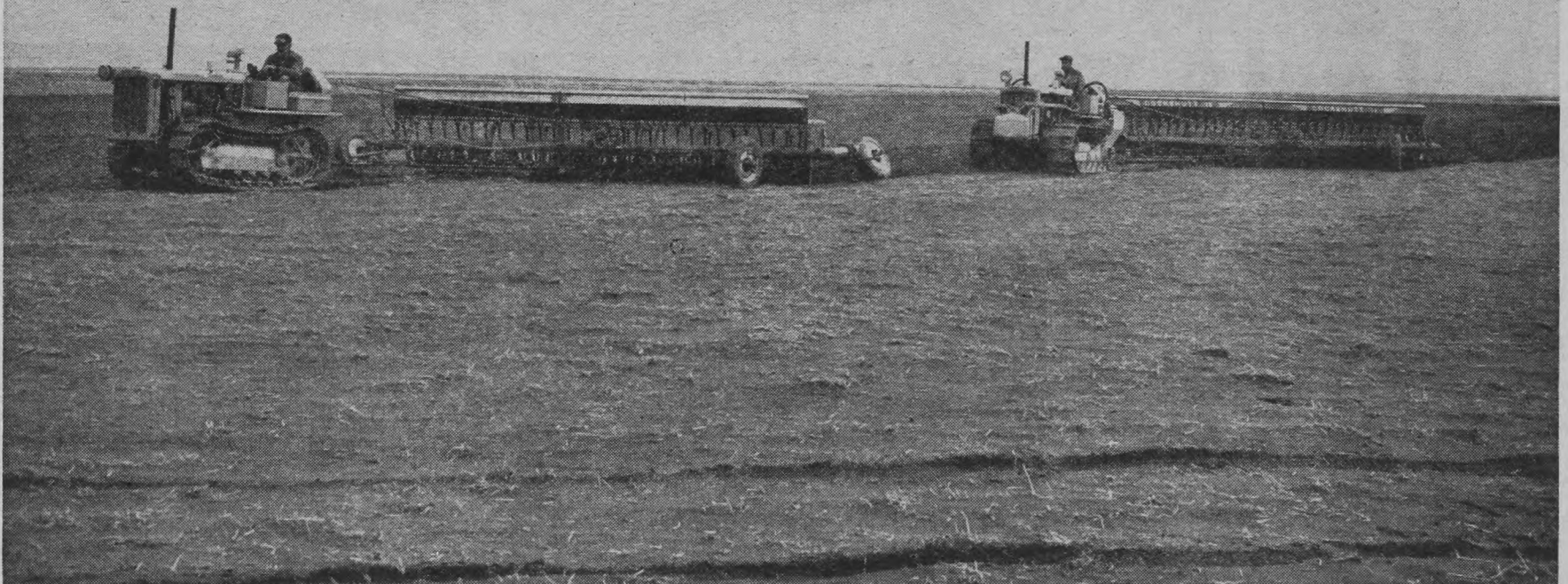
Palliser travelled it, and a year later he was followed by H. Y. Hind, both men sent out by governments to consider the possibilities of farming this great prairie and bush country land. In 1859, the Earl of Southesk made his famous trip in search of game and hunting. In March, 1867, Father Grandin drove from Winnipeg to Fort Carlton with a dog team, and then drove back with Father Lacombe, whom he had gone out to meet.

The early travellers of the trails faced loneliness, remoteness and great distances. They fought their carts out of mud holes. They kept a constant eye on the horizon for the much feared prairie fires. Today, where they travelled and struggled, wheat fields flourish, and roads are scrupulously built on the square. V

# D2s

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in comparison to gasoline tractors . . . and that often amounts to \$400 to \$500 a year.

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**Caterpillar Tractor Co., Peoria, Illinois, U. S. A.**

# CATERPILLAR\*

# Worms, and Worms, and Worms

*Worm story? Or fish story? We haven't been able to decide which, but the author says worms*

by P. W. LUCE

ANY man with 14,000,000 worms should live in an underdeveloped country, and have plenty of trouble. But not Tommy O'Brien of Vancouver, B.C. At last count, he had approximately this number, but they were earthworms, and he was engaged in the profitable business of selling

them. This should make him the undisputed worm king of Canada, and a real worm expert. Report has it that he has been very successful in breeding dew worms, which sometimes grow to be ten inches long.

Tommy O'Brien's customers are fishermen. Most of them are local men,

but business is done with all parts of the world, much of it with other worm breeders, who would like very much to learn the secrets of the Vancouver expert. They are not told much.

A short, wiry man with blue eyes and a mane of steel grey hair, Tommy O'Brien spent many years at sea, and travelled more than 100,000 miles studying worms. He established his earthworm hatchery in Vancouver in 1950, his entire capital being \$1,000. Within five months he was making splendid dividends and has been going ahead comfortably ever since. Frequently he works 11 hours per day,

but he does no business on Sundays, holidays, or St. Patrick's Day.

In 1952, Tommy left his hatchery in competent hands and made one more around-the-world journey in search of worm lore. Among other things, his notebooks reveal that there are 90 species of earthworms in North America—and that worms will burrow 18 feet to escape frost. South America boasts a worm seven feet long. (Shucks! Wrong heading—this is a fish story.—ed.). All worms prefer fat meat to lean, but they have an unexplained fondness for sugar and licorice, which are not even obtainable in their natural diet.

Tommy says there is no race suicide among worms. They are bi-sexual, though not self-fertilizing. Under ideal conditions they will mate all year round and will reproduce themselves as much as 4,000 times.

Although earthworms are 89 per cent water, and have no bones, they require large quantities of calcium, and thrive on high-protein foods. They are hearty eaters for their size and must be fed frequently to keep them happy and healthy (suggested slogan: "Fishworms that die happy."—ed.).

Tommy O'Brien's stock of worms never drops much below the 14,000,000 mark in the off-season, but the feed bill is pretty constant. They swallow 40 pounds of food daily, which is served to them on wire trays six inches wide and 12 inches deep. Covered with food these are lowered into the pits in such a way that the contents are kept out of the soil, thus avoiding an acid reaction, which would be unpleasant for the worms.

Living quarters are big wooden boxes five by eight feet, filled with rich loam and leafmold. When advisable, chemicals or vitamins are introduced so that the worms will be encouraged to increase and multiply almost indefinitely.

There are about 20,000 species of worms scattered all over the world and all have not yet been discovered. Scientists have been studying worms for centuries, the first written records dating back to 1469. In that year the Book of St. Alban's published an essay titled "Fyshynge and Angle," written by Julia Beineas, a Benedictine nun, who gave specific instructions about the best ones to use to catch fish for Friday's needs.

To those dubious critics who may question that there are 14,000,000 worms in the O'Brien Earthworm Hatchery, the owner merely says that he knows how much soil there is in each box. He merely counts the number of worms in a shovelful of soil and does the necessary multiplication. ✓

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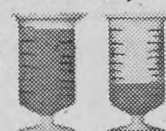


Here's the reason . . . Auto-Lite "Sta-ful" has more than 3 times the liquid reserve of ordinary batteries . . .

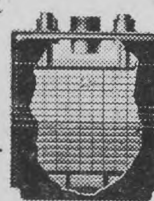
Liquid reserve of Auto-Lite "Sta-ful" is over 14 oz.



Auto-Lite "Sta-ful" plates are fully covered and active.



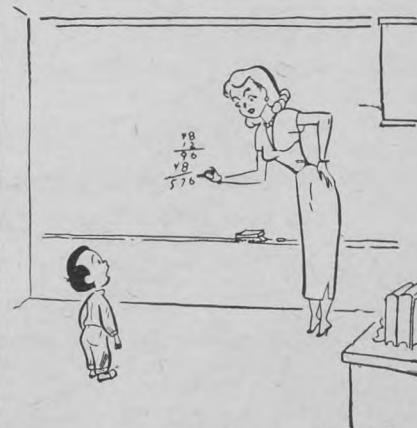
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AFTER EQUAL  
EVAPORATION  
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Fibre-glass insulation helps keep power-producing material in plates, assures longer life.



## They Beat The Army Worms

**S**OUTHWESTERN Saskatchewan's Eastend area harvested one of the biggest crops in its history this year. But it took a fast campaign against an unusual invader in early summer to salvage a good part of the crop there.

Conditions were ideal for the invasion of army cutworms, that depend on damp conditions and green growth to complete their life cycle. Eastend is not usually damp country. However, rains last fall left a growth of weeds on the surface of fallow fields, ideal for the moths to lay their eggs in, in late August and early September. The worms hatched and fed on the green growth until freeze-up.

Spring was late, and when farmers finally got their crop in, the worms were still feeding, though normally the moths would have emerged. They attacked the fresh green growth with a vengeance, and were whittling down plants at a furious pace, when they were noticed by farmers.

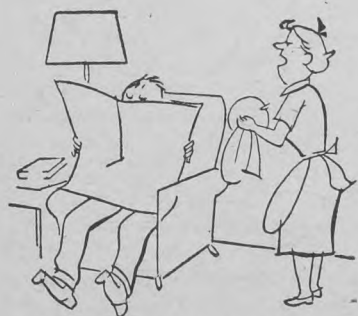
Identified by entomologists of the Department of Agriculture as army worms, they had covered a sizable area, reaching from Val Marie on the east to Consul in the extreme southwest. Counts in various fields showed infestations of up to six worms per square foot, and, all told, about 20,000 acres or more were estimated to be infested. By late May and early June, some fields were almost brown, when they should have been covered with a rich green growth.

**T**HROUGH the agricultural representative, Archie Colton, arrangements were made to obtain poison. The municipalities concerned handled it. Enough Dieldrin to spray 1,600 acres was brought in. Fifty gallons of Endrin covered another 900 acres, while enough Aldrin to bring the entire total to 5,000 acres completed their supplies. Pressure sprayers were hauled over the stricken fields from early morning until late at night. The spraying even took to the air, as a local aircraft took on the job.

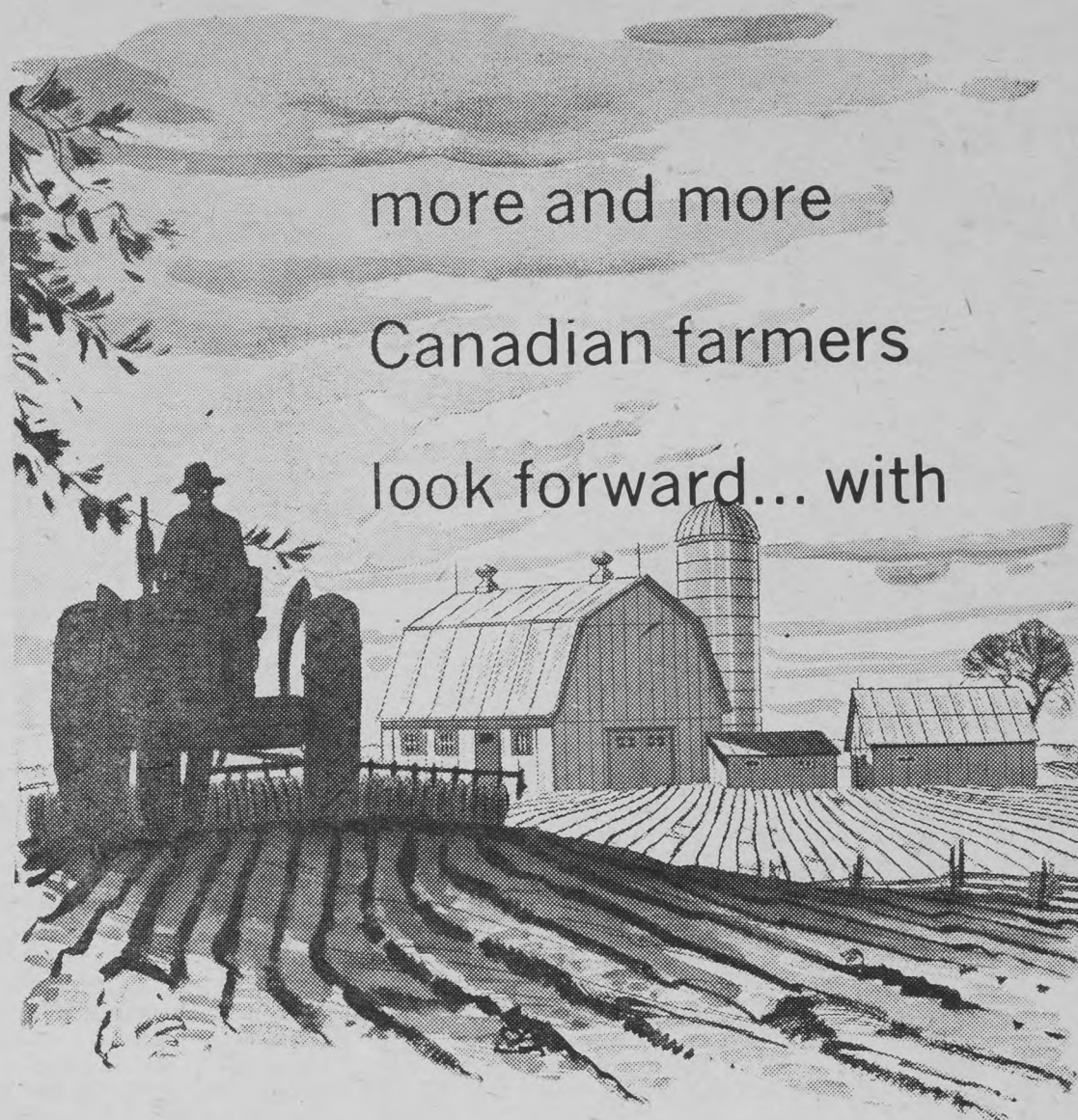
While the spray was being applied, another 4,000 acres or so were disked up and seeded again. Other fields showing lesser infestations were left untreated, and, stimulated by good growing conditions, made a successful comeback.

This fall, the results of that fast campaign were revealed by yields up to 20 or 25 bushels of wheat to the acre coming off fields that were brown last spring from the fast-working worms.

This experience provided an excellent demonstration of how fast action with modern weapons can come through in a crisis for farmers today. ✓



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**IMPROVES PRODUCTION**—Because of high reflectivity, "Kingstrong" keeps buildings cooler in summer, warmer in winter. Animals and poultry stay healthier, produce better.

**AND — YOU GET MORE COVERAGE PER DOLLAR!** The extra width of the "Kingstrong" 36-inch sheet (32-inch when ribbed) means fewer side-laps and greater coverage for your money.

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TARGOT coats udder tissue, does not remain suspended in the milk and so is not withdrawn and lost when the quarter is milked. Available from your veterinarian or druggist.

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56-PO-8

### Call for World Wheat Meeting

The Wheat Council of the International Wheat Agreement nations has requested the United Nations to convene a world wheat convention toward the end of this month. In addition to countries represented on the Wheat Council, invitations will be forwarded by the U.N. to members of that organization, to food and agricultural organizations and to members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Purpose of the meeting is to place before countries interested in world wheat trade the current demand and supply problem on a wider basis than that represented by the two International Wheat Agreements. Thus, acceptance of the invitation would bring into the discussions such countries as the United Kingdom, the Argentine, Russia, Poland and Turkey.

Great Britain who declined to become a party to the current wheat pact, allegedly because the maximum price was too high, has signified her intentions of participating in the forthcoming discussions. The fact that she will take part does not mean that the U.K. will be a party to any future agreement but it does present some possibility of working out a compromise which would be acceptable to that country.

If there is a general acceptance of the U.N.'s invitation, undoubtedly new slants on a possible solution will be advanced by nations not members of the present agreement; consequently it is not impossible that a somewhat different type of International Wheat Agreement could evolve from the discussions. If an agreement is to be reached it will have to be resolved at an early date in order to allow signatory nations to ratify it before the present agreement expires next July 31.

### U.S. Oats and Barley Import Controls Lapse

An official U.S. announcement last month stated that President Eisenhower would not seek an extension of the existing import quotas imposed against foreign oats and barley; as a result the quotas automatically expired on September 30.

While Canadians were considerably concerned at the time the quotas were imposed, shipments to the U.S. have not been affected by the quotas during the past year as actual exports have been less than one-half of the permissible imports of 40 million bushels of oats and 27.5 million bushels of barley. The lack of interest on the part of American importers of Canadian oats and barley may be explained by the fact that Canadian prices for these grains have been generally higher than those in the United States and also by the fact that last year's oats and barley crops were not of the usual high quality produced in western Canada. Most American imports of Canadian oats and barley are of high quality.

From the American point of view the current domestic oats price is well below the support loan level and consequently the incentive to import large quantities of foreign oats into that country no longer exists. Feed grain supplies are ample at the present

time and thus there is little likelihood that American prices will move upward during the current year to a level which will encourage the importing of Canadian oats and barley in larger volume.

However, if American prices do rise, and there is a tendency to import these grains in large quantities, the United States Department of Agriculture could readily act by again requesting a tariff commission study of the situation. If that body were to recommend the re-imposition of import controls it is improbable the administration would ignore it.

### I.W.A. Sales Below Quotas in 1954-55

International Wheat Agreement sales during the 1954-55 crop year fell considerably short of "quotas" but showed a substantial improvement over the previous year's sales. In 1953-54 registered sales under I.W.A. amounted to 225.2 million bushels out of a possible 389.2 million bushels, while last year's sales totalled 290.8 million bushels with total quotas of 393 million.

Largest share of the increase went to the United States whose sales under the agreement advanced from 106.1 million bushels to 139.7 million in 1954-55. The other two major wheat exporters under I.W.A., Canada and Australia, increased sales from 90.9 million bushels to 109.5 million and from 27.8 million to 41.2 million, respectively.

Since importing members are obliged to take their full guaranteed quantities only at the floor price of \$1.55 (U.S.) a bushel basis No. 1 Northern at the Lakehead, and prices being well above this minimum, the agreement insofar as quotas are concerned has been inoperative during the past two years.

### Grain Storage Plan Outlined

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent is reported to be giving careful consideration to a grain storage plan aimed at moving more grain out of farm storage. The plan was submitted to the Prime Minister last month by A. H. McDonald, Saskatchewan Liberal leader.

Details of the plan are not known at the time of writing but it is concerned with providing more off farm storage facilities so that farmers might be enabled to deliver greater quantities of grain through the regular elevator channels. It is understood that the Prime Minister was interested in the wheat delivery problem and promised to give his careful consideration to the storage plan.

The terminal storage situation is extremely tight at the present time and this situation exists to an equal degree throughout the country elevator system. Grain can only begin to move off of farms after export shipments take place from the terminal elevators and, since most wheat importing countries are absorbed with their own harvests at this period of the year, an increased export movement to overseas destinations cannot be expected for some weeks. Undoubtedly farmers with storage problems would welcome any developments which would alleviate their own storage problems.

## COMMENTARY

### Grain Carry-over Down

Total carry-over stocks of the five major Canadian grains in all North American positions at July 31 was down 24 per cent from a year ago, according to a release by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In round figures total supplies were 669 million bushels as compared with last year's record of 876 million bushels. However, since the average carry-over for the 10-year period of 1945 to 1954 is 360 million bushels, this year's carry-over is still some 86 per cent above the long-term average.

Stocks at July 31 with last year's figures in brackets were as follows: Wheat 481,400,000 (582,700,000); oats 81,100,000 (125,800,000); barley 87,200,000 (56,000,000); rye 17,900,000 (19,300,000).

The Bureau of Statistics estimated that there were 100,900,000 bushels of wheat on Canadian farms and 212,200,000 bushels in country elevators. Eastern elevators were estimated to have on hand approximately 68 million bushels of wheat and Lakehead terminals had a further 400 million bushels in store. ✓

### World Wheat Trade in 1955-56

Total international trade in wheat may be the about the same as in the past year, according to an August release by the United States Department of Agriculture. The supply position in most importing countries is average or better and total stocks of wheat in the four major exporting countries—United States, Canada, Australia, and Argentina—are expected to show a slight net increase over July 1, 1954. A major reduction in the carry-over of Canadian stocks has been offset by an increase of stocks in the United States and Argentina.

Preliminary and incomplete data on the 1954-55 wheat trade indicates a total volume of approximately 940 million bushels. This figure is seven per cent above the exports of the previous year and three per cent above the 1945-53 average of 912 million bushels, states the U.S.D.A. release.

In the current crop year as in the past, world trade in wheat will be affected by domestic production in the major importing regions. On the basis of presently available data, it appears that world wheat production will exceed that of last year.

Greatest gains in this year's wheat crop are found in the northern hemisphere with Canada leading the increase with a crop estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as being in excess of 500 million bushels.

In western Europe, which represents one of the major importing areas, the wheat crop is generally better than a year ago. Increases in production are indicated for Italy, Western Germany, France and Yugoslavia. The United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal and the Scandinavian countries are expected to show some decline in wheat production.

France, an exporting member of I.W.A., will produce a near record crop of high quality and in addition, is reported to have a substantial carry-over from the 1954 crop year. According to latest reports Greece has a

prospective crop of 50 million bushels, the second largest on record, and the out-run of the Yugoslavian and Turkish crops is expected to exceed that of last year.

With a large wheat crop of high quality in Canada and a substantial carry-over in the United States and Australia, it would appear that these exporting countries will have to work hard for their share of the international wheat trade. Informed U.S. officials are reported to have expressed the opinion that that country may conceivably match its 1954-55 exports of approximately 270 million bushels through a continuation of its various surplus export programs. It is these various exporting programs which have induced considerable concern in Canada since, in some cases, Canadian wheat has been replaced with that of the U.S. in traditionally Canadian markets.

However, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, speaking to the recent meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers in Rome, outlined the U.S. agricultural program and assured his audience of the minimum disruption of normal trade patterns. The Secretary stated:

"We are seeking to bring production more nearly into line with demand through marketing quotas and acreage reduction. At the same time, through the adjustment of support levels, we are employing price as a means of increasing consumption. Our policies of seeking to bring production into better balance with demand and of making our price programs more realistic seem to be clearly understood. But apparently there have arisen some misconceptions, not to say, misapprehensions, about our foreign marketing programs.

"Our agricultural export policy is based on three principles:

"1. We will compete fairly on the world market.

"2. We will be competitive in quality.

"3. We will participate in a mutually profitable international trade that gives our customers abroad the continuous opportunity to earn the foreign exchange they need to buy our products.

"We will not engage in any cut-throat race for markets. We will not break or unduly disrupt world markets. We are interested in fair play. We want to do our utmost to further the spirit of co-operation among all countries and to achieve an increase in consumption of surplus products. Admittedly we are competing against other nations in certain important phases of agriculture. But our aim is, always, friendly competition—fair competition.

"Apparently, however, there is some feeling that our surplus disposal programs and policies are interfering unfairly with normal trade. We do not think this is an accurate appraisal. But this much I am sure we would all agree upon—there is need for honest exchanges of opinion—for discussing our problems—for mutual understanding of the conditions which prompt our national actions." ✓

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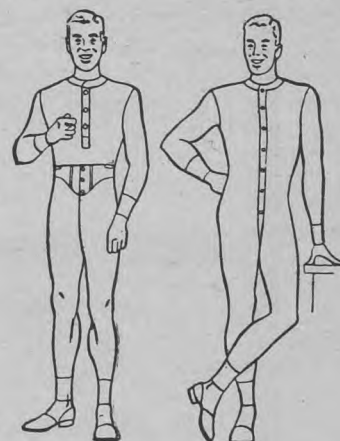
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In Underwear, as in everything else, you only get what you pay for. You'll save money in the long run by buying Penmans underwear, because Penmans products fit better and wear longer.

## Once a Rebel . . .

Continued from page 8

along." Geordie said he knew one farmer got caught for \$2,000.

Gramp's never had a bank account. He just uses that old rucksack, so I guess they couldn't trick him on that, but I was worried just the same. As far as I know Gramp's never given the government a nickel. He's just never bothered to fill out those forms they

send around every spring. Don't ask me how he gets away with it. Maybe down in Ottawa they don't know about Gramp, but after some of the letters he's written to Mr. Gardiner that seems hard to believe.

I decided I should give Gramp a bit of warning. After supper I climbed into the panel and drove up the valley to the old place. There was nobody around the buildings, Gramp doesn't have a housekeeper, you see, so I went out on the trail to the back flat Gramp

keeps seeded down to timothy. They were there, all right, getting in the last of the hay crop. Gramp was on top of the load tramping and Uncle Pete tossing up forkfuls. Gramp hasn't much use for balers and hayloaders and lord knows I've tried hard enough to sell him. It's my business.

Gramp got down and Uncle Pete moved along to the next coil of hay and pulled out a box and we all had a cool drink. I told Gramp about what Geordie Dodds had said.

"Uh-huh," Gramp says, "there was a letter or something, yesterday morning."

"You got to go in and see them," I said.

"Don't know," says Gramp, "I didn't read the letter."

"You got it with you?" I said.

"Lit the kitchen fire with it this morning," says Gramp.

That was all I could find out about it, from him. I had to get back to town to the Aqua meeting. That's the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Athletic Association and I'm secretary-treasurer. I guess it's a bit of a put-up job that I get elected every year because when I was a kid I was keen on hockey and baseball. When I came home from the army with this steel plate at my knee I guess everybody wanted me to have something to do so as not to feel out of things. Folks are good that way here.

Well, I had to get to this meeting because we're a little short on finances. All through it, when people were tossing up ideas about how to raise money, I couldn't help thinking about what these income tax fellows would do to Gramp.

After the meeting we were having an ice cream in Guy deMars cafe. Guy is president of Aqua this year and I told him about Gramp and the income tax people. Guy sort of puffs out that way he does when he's talking at the Board of Trade and looks real serious and says that's bad.

Guy should know because he got caught up himself a couple of years back and it cost him \$3,000. "It was that or go to jail," he said, "those people don't fool."

I asked him how he was getting along this time.

Guy worked up that big grin of his. "This time it goes all right," he said, "because now I have that racehorse and I enter him as part of my business and he is losing money all the time."

"I wondered why you kept that nag," I said. "Maybe you got a racehorse you could sell Gramp."

Guy said he had a better notion.

"What?" I asked him.

Guy said, "Just look at a lot of big corporations, always giving money away. Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, Community Chest, that sort of thing. Then they declare it on their income tax as charity and don't pay on it."

"Nothing like that here," I said.

Guy looked disgusted and said, "And you're our secretary-treasurer! What's wrong with Aqua? We need our ball park fixed up and we need new lights in the rink and the juniors need new uniforms."

I cottoned to it then but I wasn't so sure it'd work. After all, Gramp didn't fill up that old rucksack by giving handouts to young bucks playing baseball or hockey. It isn't that he's really close, he's just cautious. So I asked Guy if he thought he could get Gramp to part with his money. Guy said Gramp would rather give it to Aqua than to those fellows at Ottawa. I said I guess he'd rather just keep it in the old rucksack. "Well you think up something better," said Guy sarcastic.

THE thing is I did! Next afternoon, on a Friday, I was heading up to the bank to see about a loan. Us implement agents have to pay cash on the line for all our stock. It gets

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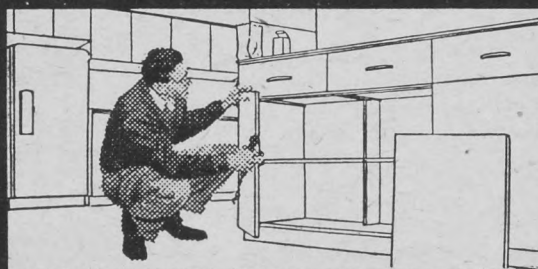
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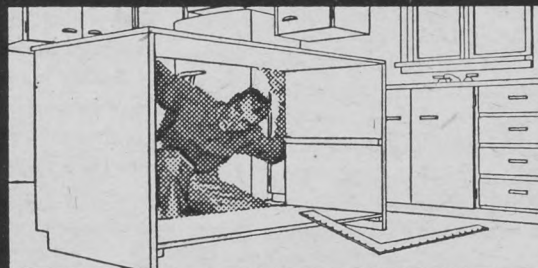
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a bit tight in harvest because that's when farmers usually want things on time. I just got up to the bank when Frank Hambleton, the manager, came out the door carrying his golf clubs and stuck them in the back of his Dodge. He looked at me sort of sheepish and said he was sneaking away early to get in some golf before dark, over at Clear Lake.

That's a long drive and I said so and Frank said it was the closest place for a good game. Frank's a pretty nice fellow, a bit of class, I guess, but real common with farmers and ordinary folk.

"Too bad there isn't a course here in the valley," I said.

Frank said he sure wished there was. He came back into the bank with me to fix up about the loan. As I sat there in his office while he was making up the papers, I could look clear up the valley near to Gramp's. I could see some of his Herefords moving around on the hillside pasture.

"Frank," I said, "would you be ready to organize a golf club if somebody fixed up a course?"

Frank looked surprised and said sure he guessed he would but he didn't know where we could get land because he'd tried and the only place was up on the sand plain. I told him to forget about Clear Lake and take a run with me out to Gramp's place.

Well, Frank and I forked hay for the rest of that weekend. Frank raised callouses the size of five-cent pieces but by Sunday night we convinced Gramp he'd have to do something to get off paying income tax. We told him the best thing to do was to give something to community charity.

Gramp wanted to know what the community ever did for him.

Well I knew Gramp and I said what did the government ever do for him. Then I told him that Mr. Hambleton wanted to start up a golf club and was looking for a nice, pretty bit of land.

"Not here," says Gramp, "this is my homestead. Picked her out in '82. Walked all the way up the valley from Brandon and this was the prettiest piece of hillside I seen. I got here first and no golfers are chasing me out."

I could see he was getting riled and I told him fast we didn't want him to leave, we just wanted a bit of the hillside.

"What about the Herefords?" Gramp says, "they can't pasture in the wheat-field."

"Leave them there," I said, "they'll help keep the grass down."

Well, Gramp finally gave in. The next day Frank Hambleton got the

lawyer over from Birtle and he drew it all up formal, a deed you call it. The same night we had a little meeting in the Grain Growers elevator and set up the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Golf and Country Club and elected Frank president and me secretary-treasurer.

This deed said how Gramp had donated 73 acres of hillside land valued at \$55 an acre and a 10-by-14 portable granary for a clubhouse valued at \$300. Last year one end of that granary burst out and Dunc Robson's pigs came and had an awful feed. The deed was dated a year back.

WELL, that next week was a real five-ring circus. The income tax men got into town on Monday, y'see and we had to get things fixed up to look like a real golf club. Uncle Pete took the tractor and hauled the old portable granary up into the pasture near the highway and Gilbert Rondeau brought down his big Caterpillar and bulldozed out the places where the scrub was worst. Frank Hambleton laid out a course that was really a dilly. Of course the fairway was all rough and the greens were just dirt where Gilbert Rondeau had scooped out with his grader. Anyway, it looked like a golf course and we even got a bolt of red cloth from Egan's general store and put up little flags on posts on all the greens. Uncle Pete got enthusiastic and painted a sign on the granary: Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Golf and Country Club, members and guests welcome.

Well, Gramp had to appear before these income tax inspectors in the municipal office that Friday. I wanted to tag along and try and keep him out of trouble but Dunc Robson started swathing up on the plain the day before and broke the land wheel on his swather. I had to go up and do a repair job.

By this time everybody around St. Lazare had heard about the new golf club and were pulling for Gramp to outfox the income tax man. Charlie Madden, secretary-treasurer for the municipality, was in the next office to where this income tax fellow was working. It's one of those low partition rigs and I guess Charlie was interested in what was going on about Gramp.

Anyway, he told me all about it later. This income tax fellow seemed to have a lot of information about what Gramp had sold the year before. I guess he got it from the permit books in the elevator and places like that. Then he was asking Gramp about deductions and there was wages for Uncle Pete and depreciation on the machinery and buildings. I'll bet that old tractor of his has depreciated about 1,000 per cent by now. I forget just what the figures were showing then, I guess Gramp would have owed them a few hundred dollars. Then this fellow wants to know about deductions under charity and Gramp pulls out his deed to the Golf and Country Club.

Charlie Madden said this fellow sounded real peeved then. He said this was very unusual and Gramp said he didn't see why. The fellow said this wasn't a recognized charitable organization. Gramp said it was doing



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the same sort of work as the Y.M.C.A. or the Community Chest.

This fellow wanted to know if it was for the underprivileged and Gramp said sure, we're all underprivileged here. I guess the guy was getting really peeved.

Then the fellow said he thought the price of the land was kind of high. Gramp said it wasn't much more than the government had offered him for some land up on the sand plain 15 years back and this land was in the valley and look how prices had gone up.

Well, I guess maybe this guy was really baffled, or maybe he didn't believe Gramp at all. When I got back from fixing Dunc Robson's swather Gramp was sitting here in the garage with this young fellow in a light suit and straw hat and tan shoes. He didn't look very happy.

"This here's Mr. Prentiss from the income tax," Gramp said.

I said, "How d'you do, excuse my greasy hands!"

Gramp said, "Mr. Prentiss would like to see the golf course since he had his clubs with him and it would save him driving over to Clear Lake for the weekend." And he winked at me.

We got in the panel and drove out across the river to the old pasture. Mr. Prentiss followed along in his Buick. When we pulled up at the granary I thought it looked a bit dingy and I was wishing we'd had it painted. Mr. Prentiss got out and got his clubs and walked over to the first tee-off place. I'm not much of a golf fan but I guess it's a pretty long shot to that first green. You have to shoot out from a bunch of elms across a little coulee and then about a quarter of a mile along the pasture.

Mr. Prentiss took out one of his clubs and stood there wagging it back and forth. He seemed to be getting ready to hit off when Gramp's big Hereford bull walked out from a clump of willow on the other side of the coulee. Mr. Prentiss stopped wagging his club. He asked whose animal that was.

"That's my bull," Gramp says, "and be careful not to hit him."

Mr. Prentiss says sarcastic, "I thought you gave this land to the golf club."

"I did, too," Gramp says, "and I'm not charging them for keeping the grass down, either."

Well, Mr. Prentiss set his ball up on that little doohickey and swung his club back and forth a few more times and then stepped up and smashed it off. He hit it real hard, but not very straight. It bounced off one of the elms and ricocheted down into the coulee and we could hear it slicing through the underbrush.

"Too bad," I said and winked at Gramp.

Mr. Prentiss put his club back into the bag and walked to his car. He said he guessed he'd just as soon drive to Clear Lake as to hunt for that ball.

Then he took a look around the old granary. "You still have a lot of work to do here," he said.

I said "Yes, I guess we were really just getting started."

Then he looked at Gramp and he said he guessed Gramp would be—ah,

contributing to the club for a good few years yet.

I said I guessed he would and the Buick drove off down the trail in a real nasty cloud of dust. Gramp looked at me and gave me one of those sly grins of his.

"Smart young fellow from Ottawa," he said, "they can't take it. Did I ever tell you about the time they sent this fellow Middleton up to capture Looie Riel?"

That's the trouble with Gramp, he gets historic sometimes.

I guess everybody would have been just as happy if the whole thing had ended there, except of course, Mr. Prentiss. But Guy deMars is right when he says those fellows don't fool. Mr. Prentiss came back from his weekend of golfing at Clear Lake all tanned and healthy looking and started right in again to work on Gramp. He said he wanted statements of everything Gramp had bought or sold going back to 1946. All Gramp could show him was a refund slip he'd got from Eaton's for two suits of winter underwear that were too big and the pedigree papers that give the Hereford bull's name as Prince Domino.

It ended up Gramp had to swear out a statement of net worth or something and then they taxed him according to that. If Charlie Madden heard right it'll flatten out that old rucksack a good bit. On the next Sunday I headed up to his place.

Uncle Pete was down at the back of the stone granary. I asked him where Gramp was.

"Up to the house," said Uncle Pete. I asked what he was doing there.

Uncle Pete grinned. "He's writing to that lawyer in Birtle."

I'd figured it would have upset him. "What's he plan on doing?" I asked.

Uncle Pete said well, when this young fellow from income tax got all that money Gramp wanted to know what they'd do with it in Ottawa. Mr. Prentiss went on for an hour or more about the army, provincial grants, baby bonuses and old age pensions and so on. "You know, Pa never took out for that pension," said Uncle Pete, "and now he's got the idea he's going to and get some of his money back."

"Well," I said, "that shouldn't be hard, he's 92."

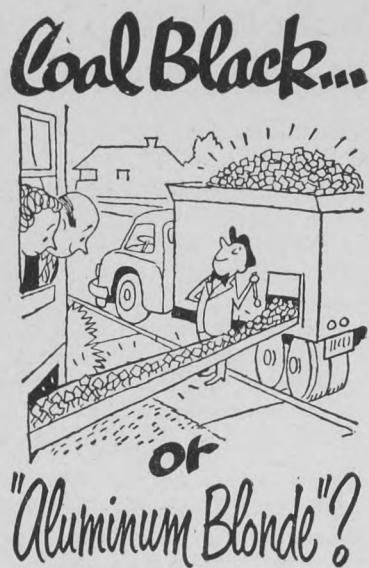
Uncle Pete grinned and said it wasn't only getting the pension Gramp was after. "He figures if the govern-

People throw stones only at the tree loaded with fruit. — French Proverb.

ment can collect him up and collect for ten years back taxes there's no reason why he can't collect all his back pension right back to 1932. He's written to Ottawa about it."

That was last fall. Gramp is still writing letters to some fellow in Ottawa. Some people, like Geordie Dodds, the implement man from Birtle, thinks he's crazy. Geordie told me Gramp has more chance of getting ten years without flood in the Qu'Appelle than he has of getting a nickel of back pension from Ottawa.

Geordie knows more about government doings than me, but I know a lot more about Gramp. Nobody's got the best of him yet.



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## Tree-Rings Tell of Sunspots

*Tree-rings not only tell us of the weather centuries ago but something of man's history, as well*

by JOHN WESTBURY

**P**UZZLING over the cause of sunspots and their possible effect on the weather, a young astronomer one day in 1902, suddenly recalled to mind the odd appearance of the pine-forest on a nearby mountain-side in northern Arizona. Hitching his horse to a wagon, he drove to the forest, noting again with inward excitement the changes in the forest as the road led him down to the desert.

From that outwardly inconsequential wagon ride, the astronomer, whose name was Andrew Douglass, returned home to formulate a new theory on sunspots. The climate, he reasoned, affects the growth of all plant life, including trees: if (as we believe) sunspots in turn affect the climate, should we not be able to find a history of sunspots written in the slow growth of trees?

Investigation soon proved that his theory was soundly based, and the scientist and anthropologist interested in the story of human life and climate down the ages, found opened to him a new "history" of these things, written by nature in "code" in the world's trees.

Science has adequate proof that sunspots are linked with the great magnetic storms which sweep the earth at regular intervals, interrupting radio communication and making telephonic and telegraphic transmission almost unintelligible. Until Douglass interested himself in sunspots and tree-calendars, scientists had few, if any, reliable "tools" whereby to seek the cause of sunspots and their effect upon the earth's climate. Now, after more than 50 years' intensive study of tree-rings, some of the mysteries of sun and earth (especially the latter) are being slowly yet significantly revealed.

**B**UT, you may wonder, what link is there between tree-rings and sunspots? How can an examination of the former tell us what kind of climate was experienced, say, 500 years ago in some part of Canada, or Britain, or New Zealand?

You'll recall that trees grow by adding a new layer of wood each year, just under the bark. These rings are clearly discernible in most trees, but

they are clearer and wider in trees growing in temperate lands having well-defined winters, since growth automatically stops during the cold months. Each ring indicates a year of the tree's life.

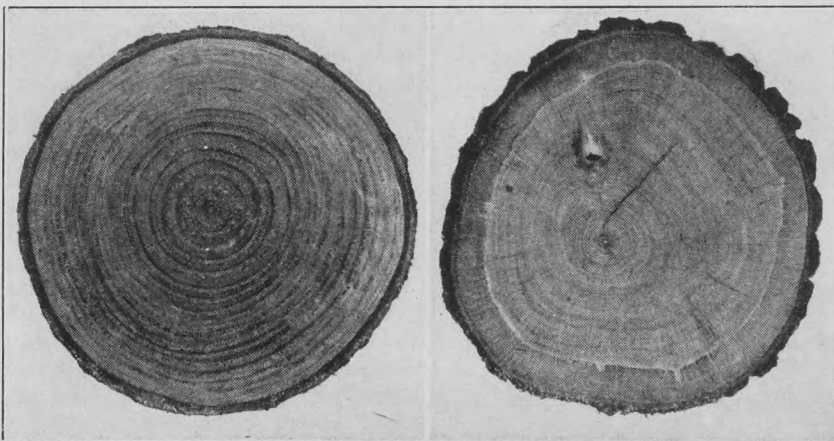
Studying the "ring-calendars" of thousands of trees in many different climates, Professor Douglass soon discovered that the width of these rings varies with climate, especially in those regions where temperature and rainfall are factors vitally affecting plant growth. In widely separated regions having the same climate, ring patterns were found to match exactly.

Further investigations revealed many other secrets. It was found, for instance, that by tracing the rings back through overlapping lives of generations of trees (a process known as "crossdating"), a chronology of hundreds of years could be constructed. Moreover, the ingenious idea of examining closely the beams of wood from ancient buildings as well as long-buried logs, enabled the experts to take the story back still further centuries.

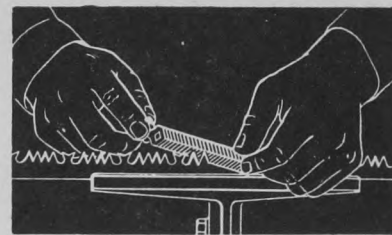
By carefully collating and analyzing results of investigations carried out in many parts of the world, but especially in Great Britain, the United States, Alaska, Scandinavia and Europe generally, Professor Douglass and his associates established that the rhythms or cycles of tree growth correspond closely with the 11-year sunspot cycles.

It was this new science of tree-ring studies, which enabled experts to discover the exact date of origin of the pre-Columbian Indian settlement known as Pueblo Bonito, in Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. Studying its many ancient timbers, they found that the earliest timber was cut in 919 A.D. The settlement, they found, was still occupied in 1127. This knowledge helped the world's archaeologists to fit into the pattern of history more than 40 other Indian settlement ruins, so that they knew exactly when each settlement had been founded, and when it more or less ceased to exist as a place of the living.

It is fascinating to learn, also, that the tree-ring research experts have a



Left: A cross-section of Douglas fir showing annual rings of heartwood and sapwood. Right: Cross-section of oak showing also medullary rays.



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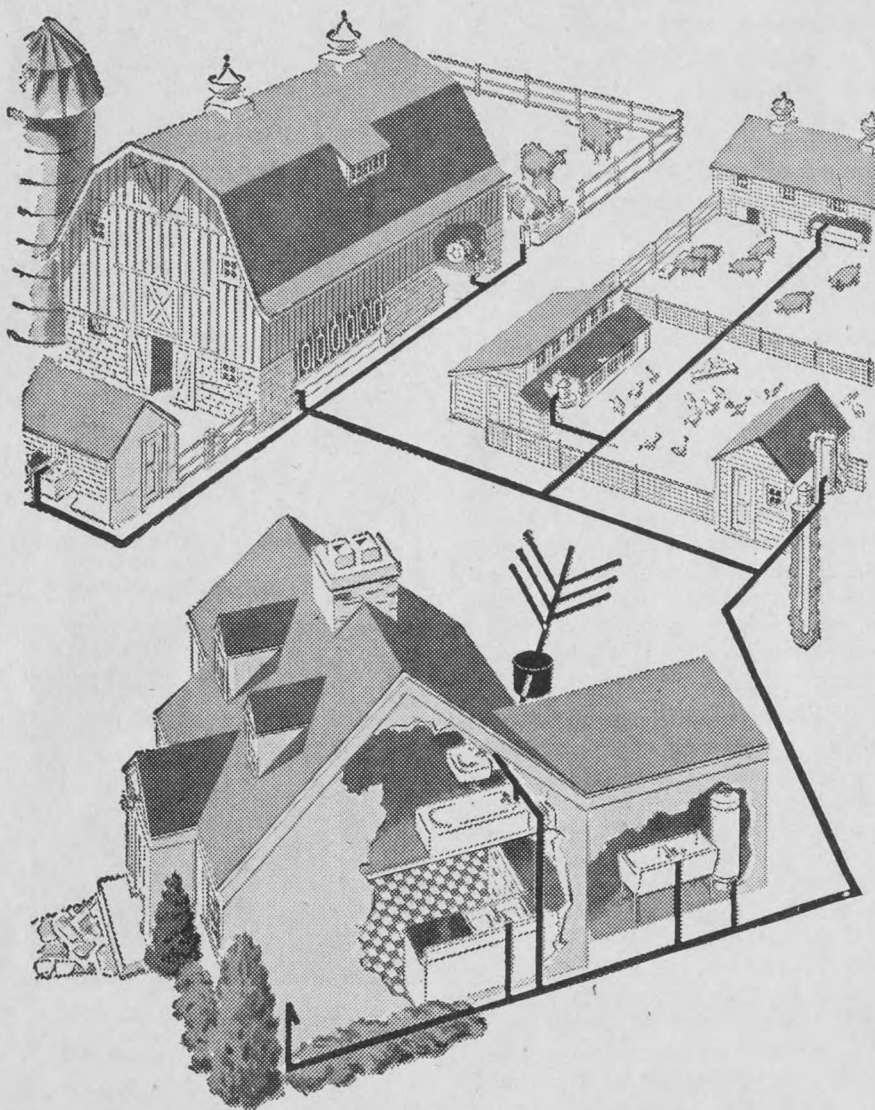
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tree calendar, written by desert conifers, which goes back to the year 11 A.D. Another tree calendar has been traced in the giant sequoias of California, to a period before 1000 B.C.

By studying the rate of growth, the distance between rings, their appearance and width, and other factors, the experts can give a fair summary of the climate experienced for centuries back in the region where the tree (and its ancestors) stood. In the same way a knowledge of man (his methods of building, knowledge of tools, customs and other information) can be deduced from expert examination of ancient timbers taken from centuries-old buildings. V

### Odd and Interesting

(One in a series of farm inventions  
from the files of the U.S. Patent Office)

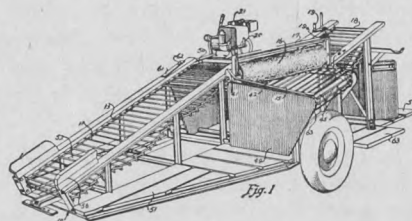
by MIKE RIVISE

### Potato Picker

NOT much more than 100 years ago, it was the lack of potatoes that drove so many Irishmen away from Ireland to this continent. Now, apparently, it is the abundance of potatoes that has sent inventors to work, and, by their achievements, is proving at the same time that modern generations are no less inventive than the generations of our fathers and grandfathers.

In 1953, Franklin Daniel Grey of Hillsboro, and Edward Groth Snyder of Preston, Ontario, secured a patent for what they call "a device for separating potatoes from stones," which was No. 2656921 in the U.S. patent office.

The device, according to the inventors, consists of two conveyors. The first conveyor separates the potatoes from the stones and throws them on a second conveyor. The brush of this one is flexible enough to permit a stone to pass underneath, while retaining the potato. Sounds very simple! Nevertheless, there is a clever arrangement of conveyors, brushes, rails, racks, cranks, and so on, which would be clear perhaps to mechanical engineers or to



people who can read blueprints. Fortunately, the farmer who uses equipment like this would need no more technical knowledge than he requires to run a tractor.

It is clear that the first attempts of inventors are not always successful, or satisfactory. The original application for this patent was filed in 1948, and in 1950 another application contained amendments, involving many improvements to the invention. Nevertheless the patent office at Washington withheld final granting of the patent until October 27, 1953. This was more than three years later and was certainly long enough to give the machine a good try-out on the patent examiner's own potato crop. V

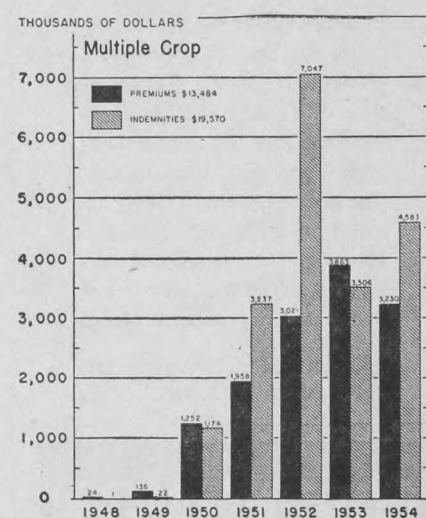
## Manitoba Crop Insurance Prospect

Continued from page 12

gested that this money has been paid out over a period of relatively good yields and prices, and that the amount will almost inevitably grow to more substantial average annual payments. It was suggested that this made even more urgent a study of the entire Act, with the object of eliminating a number of its weaknesses responsible for inequities in the distribution of premiums.

THE Commission was also instructed to conduct "an investigation into all other crop insurance schemes presently in force in Canada and the United States, with a view to determining their application to Manitoba farming conditions."

The report examines the program in the United States and, in particular, the program in areas adjacent to Manitoba. North Dakota experience was studied and some attempt was



Seven years of multiple crop insurance brought heavy losses in three years offset only by slight gains.

made to estimate how well premiums and indemnities might have been balanced in the state, if the crop insurance program had been operating since 1926, instead of for the relatively high-yield, high-price 1939-55 period only.

The result, indicating a deficit of over \$100 million over the entire period 1926-55 is, at best, suggestive. Only limited reliance should be placed on this calculation because of the difficulty of accurately estimating what claims would have been made, the Commission points out that the result is not entirely unexpected. In all years, except those of good yield, most small grains areas have suffered deficits. In catastrophic years these deficits have grown to enormous proportions.

The crop insurance program in the United States is federally backed. When the program was started in 1939 a sum of \$100 million was appropriated by Congress to meet any deficits. Administration costs of the program have also been met by the U.S. government. States and counties have virtually no influence in the operation of the program, which is underwritten and operated by the federal government.

The success of the program has varied, but the trend has been in the direction of a steadily growing deficit

in spite of reasonably good prices and yields.

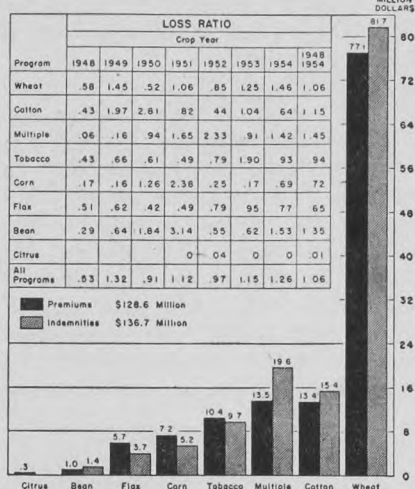
The program was started in 1939, but was abandoned in 1943 in the face of heavy losses. In 1944 no insurance was written. From 1945 to 1947 the program again operated. In 1948 operations were sharply curtailed and insurance policies were written in only 375 of the 2,500 counties that could have insurance. The Commission report points out that crop insurance in the U.S. is essentially an experimental program, de-

7.6 per cent of the farmers in the United States carry crop insurance. Only 2.66 per cent of the value of crops raised in the United States in 1955 was covered by crop insurance, and in spite of the fact that over 97 per cent of the crops grown were not insured, losses have been substantial.

The Commission avoided suggesting that crop insurance was not practicable in Canada: they did conclude that the province of Manitoba would be most unwise to set up a provincial program.

The Commission was also instructed to report on the present-day applicability to Manitoba farming conditions of a report made in 1940 by the Economic Survey Board to the Manitoba government—a report in which qualified approval was given to the setting up of a crop insurance program. In discussing this report the present Commission stated that the earlier report had no present-day applicability. The 15 years of experience gained in crop insurance, since the earlier report was written, has revealed many potential hazards in the operation of a program that could not have been anticipated in 1940.

The Commission report, by implication, agrees with some of the more fundamental criticisms of Manitoba farmers levelled against the operation of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. With respect to crop insurance, they are unanimous that a province with the yield history of Manitoba, good though it is, would run very grave risks in establishing such a program. V



**U.S. all-program loss ratio (1948-54), was dominated by wheat, cotton and multiple crop insurance net losses.**

signed to gather the data required for a successful larger program, and that this experimental aspect of the U.S. program continues to the present. Slightly over 800 counties presently have crop insurance.

Two types of insurance have been widely sold by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The predominant one is commodity insurance, in which a single crop, such as wheat, is insured on a contract. If the crop fails, the Corporation makes up the difference between the actual level of the yield and the insured level. The other type, multiple crop insurance, according to the report, is likely to be discontinued in its present form in the United States. Under this program all the crops on a farm are insured under one policy: if the sum of the values of the crops on the farm do not equal the face value of the policy, the difference is made up from the funds of the Corporation. Multiple insurance is being abandoned, because of its extreme complexity and the high cost of administering it.

ONE of the reasons for the appointment of the Commission in Manitoba was the feeling of farmers that a program operating successfully in the United States and insuring farm crops could be successfully transferred to Manitoba. The report at no time suggests that this is not true, but does point out that the risks of loss in an area as small as the cropped acreage in Manitoba, would be very great, and that the income from premiums would not be sufficient to meet the losses that might be incurred in years of poor yields. In years of catastrophic crop losses the Commission suggests that claims would be so large that the provincial government and Manitoba farmers combined would not be able to meet the demands against the assets of the program.

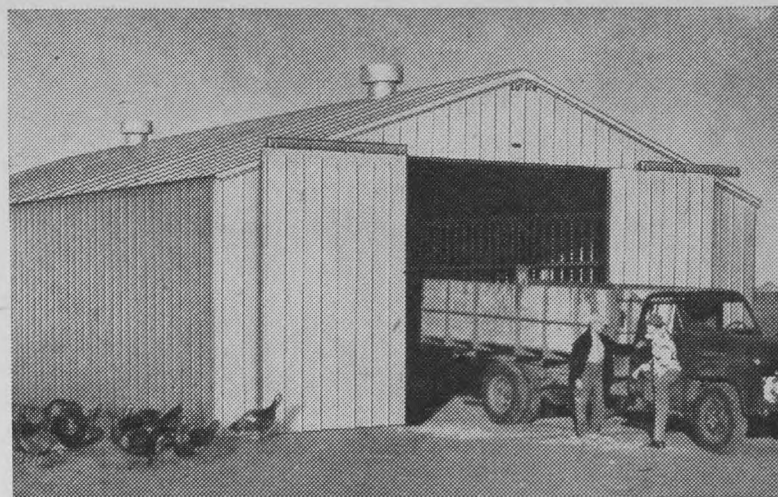
Nor do they feel that the U.S. program has, as yet, proved its ability to meet crop reverses. At present, only

## Grass and Cattle On Parkland Soil

ARNOLD NIXON, north of Daysland, Alberta, cultivates 800 acres of land. Like most farms in the area, it has been growing grain just about every second year since it was first broken. Nevertheless, a sudden about-face has ended what was once a trade-mark of the farm,—granaries filled with wheat and the overflow piled in large cones on the ground. At one time, 8,000 or 10,000 bushels was not an uncommon crop. Recently, however, wheat grades have been slipping from No. 1 to No. 3 or No. 4, and yields have been down. Arnold, and Glen Nixon, his father, decided that the once-treed parkland could not grow grain continuously. Some different crops were necessary, and they went to government soil specialists at Edmonton to get the answer.

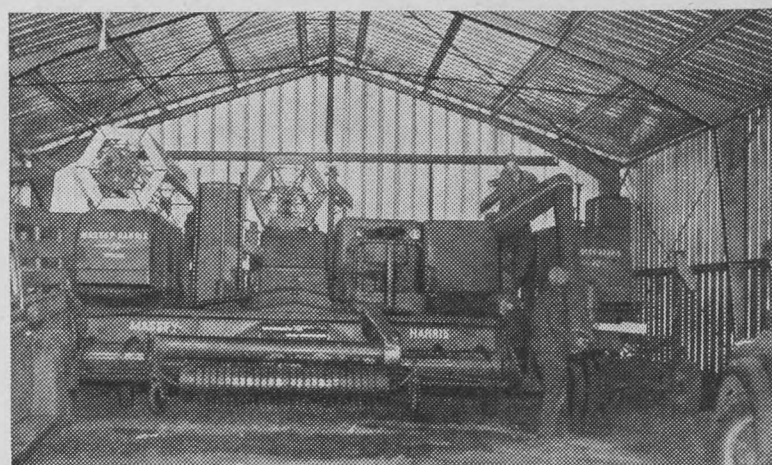
A crop rotation, with cattle, was the answer they got. A long-term rotation was recommended, with half the cultivated acreage in crop each year, and most of the remainder in pasture or hay. Such a rotation almost got rid of the idle summerfallow years, and promised to provide sufficient fibre for the soil, to make permanent farming possible.

In 1950 they seeded 125 acres to tame grass. Three years later another 120 acres was put down. Now they have taken wheat completely out of their farming program, and plan to market everything grown on the farm, through livestock. They already have a feedlot turning out steers the year round. V



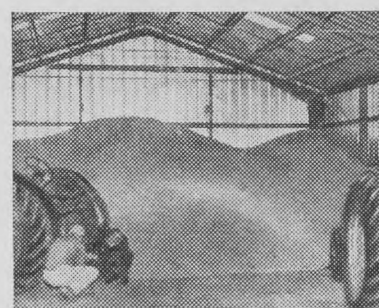
"Three of us put up my Butler steel building in less than a week, with no trouble at all," says Gustav Paulgaard of Provost, Al-

berta. Wide, roomy sliding doors make it easy to move big farm machines and Mr. Paulgaard's truck in and out.

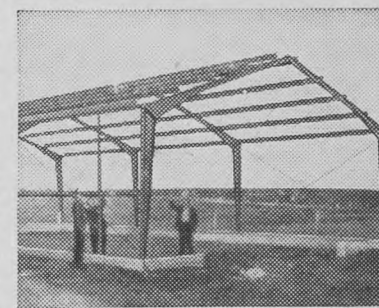


There's room enough for three big, wide combines across one end of Oscar Paulgaard's Butler building near Hayter, Al-

berta—plenty of room for all his farm equipment and his two motor trucks. There's no waste space in a Butler.



Gustav Paulgaard stores both wheat and farm machinery in his Butler building. No bulging or bending where grain is stored.



Modern "barn raisin'" on the prairie. Butler rigid frames go up fast on a concrete foundation at Palmer Paulgaard's.

## Paulgaards buy 3 BUTLER steel buildings "on sight" at Lloydminster Fair

When Gustav Paulgaard, Provost, Alberta, saw the 36 x 60-ft. Butler building at the Lloydminster fair last summer, he decided he wanted one just like it. A few days later he bought one for grain and machinery storage. When his sons Oscar and Palmer saw it, they, too, decided a Butler building was just what they needed.

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## The Tree That Refuses to Die

*Fire, flood, storms, or artillery have failed to kill this grotesque species of tree*

by CHARLES DRUMMOND

ONE of the oddest of the world's strange trees is unquestionably the "baobab," found chiefly in South and East Africa and in Australia. It is unusual for many reasons. Though it puts out deep roots, its branches are short and stubby and for most of the year are bare of leaves, giving the tree a truly grotesque appearance. Natives of Africa have a legend that the baobab tree was planted "upside down" by an angry devil, thereby "explaining" why the spread of branches is so much less than the spread of roots underneath.

Known scientifically as "*Adansonia digitata*," the baobab tree has a slow rate of growth and consequently takes centuries to achieve the fat or vase-like trunk, which in time grows to gigantic size, yet rarely higher than 60 feet. Dr. David Livingstone, noted missionary and explorer, relates that during his sojourn in Africa a baobab tree which had been cut down, was left lying on the ground and within a few months had grown another inch! He noted also that the baobab increased its circumference (at the trunk) at the rate of about one foot every 14 years.

Despite its strange appearance, the natives of Africa, where the baobab flourishes, have not been afraid to make use of the tree. From the bark they make rope, strong coarse cord, and rough fabrics, which usually entails stripping the bark from the entire trunk as high as they can reach. The timber itself is soft and useless for practical purposes. But the fruit, known as "ki-boo-yu," provides seeds and an acid-tasting pulp, from which the natives make gruel. This fruit, incidentally, is another odd feature of the tree, for it grows in a hard, felt-jacketed pod, shaped like a bomb. "Like a bomb" it falls when ripe, and on striking the ground bursts and scatters its seeds over a wide area.

The leaves, too, are eaten and apparently taste something like spinach. In some African areas the natives use the leaves as "fodder" for their livestock.

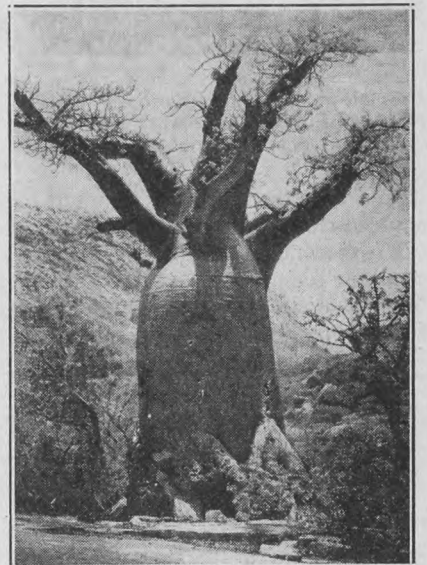
Because of its grotesque appearance it is not surprising therefore that witch-doctors should believe the baobab tree can provide "powerful medicine." So they carry odd pieces of baobab wood, leaves, seeds and other particles in their bizarre pharmacopoeia, using them to "cure" all sorts of ailments!

Commercially, the tree has no value beyond the restricted use of the tartaric acid in the fruit pulp, which is used as a "cream of tartar," hence the name "Cream-of-tartar" tree, given to it by Europeans. A Mozambique paper-manufacturing company some years ago tried to use the soft timber of the baobab to make paper pulp, but their experiments were discontinued because the proposition proved uneconomic.

THE vitality of this strange tree is indeed unique, for it survives all kinds of ill-treatment and disasters, which kill other trees. Normally,

girdling a tree is enough to kill it. Not so the baobab, for when the natives strip off the bark all round for use in making cord and fabrics, the tree simply grows another bark, however large the trunk may be. If the new bark is cut or disturbed, it is quickly replaced!

Forest fires of the fiercest intensity likewise cannot destroy the baobab. When the fire has done its worst and has passed on, the baobab is even more grotesque, for most of the small branches have been consumed by the flames and the tree is blackened and stunted in appearance. Yet within a few months new growth appears, and in due season the finger-like leaves appear. The fruit (known incidentally as monkey-bread or sour-gourd), soon



[S. Rhodesia Gov't photo]

*This amazing tree has no commercial value but the natives use it freely.*

follows, and the tree continues to flourish as though nothing had happened.

Similarly, storms and floods have little real effect on the baobab, so amazing is its vitality and resistance to death. Even when the interior of the vase-shaped trunk is hollowed out to make a chamber inside, the tree is seemingly "undisturbed" and continues to grow!

THESE chambers have a wide variety of uses. In East and South Africa and in Rhodesia, native tribes use the chambers as water reservoirs, for living in, and also as a form of "memorial chapel" for the dead, pending the ceremonial burial later. In Western Australia there still exist a number of baobab trees in which chambers have been carved as "prisons." One of these stands at Derby, near Broome. Though the trunk is relatively small (55 feet in circumference, compared with many which achieve 100 feet), the cell inside is about 12 feet in diameter and 18 feet high. The "door" or opening is a few feet from the ground, and ventilation is provided by two holes in the "roof." The cell is said to be able to hold 12 prisoners in comfort.

A similar baobab prison tree stands at Wyndham, and is often referred to as a "bottle-tree prison," because the

tree trunk has a bottle shape. Since first used in 1900 it has served as a prison cell on hundreds of occasions. Once, it is reported, 18 aboriginals were imprisoned in it. How the aboriginals survived that night is indeed a mystery, for it was found later on that the cell could just hold only seven people standing upright!

Yet the baobab tree survived, as did another baobab which was struck by an eight-inch cannon-ball during the siege of a fort at Mombasa, by attacking Portuguese in the 18th century. Years later the cannon-ball was found when the tree was cut down. It was embedded in seven inches of wood and completely covered over. V

## He Spreads The Farming Risk

*This farmer searches diligently for ideas and bets his bank credit on the good ones*

ARCHIE MacINTYRE farms at Marsden, 20 miles south of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. He still recalls the disastrous years during the thirties, when, faced with a crop failure and a host of bills to pay, he complained to his dad, who had been an early settler in the district, that he was almost bankrupt. "Huh," was the unsympathetic reply, "I've often been that way."

That's when Archie began his swing to livestock, and a diversified farm plan. Like most other human plans, it is still not perfected.

By the generous use of bank credit he has expanded his beef herd, built new accommodation for the swine herd, equipped the farm with seed-cleaning equipment, increased the farm acreage, and finally launched an ambitious program for a brand new dairy herd. In addition, he still has plenty of other ideas to keep him busy.

Archie once earned his living as a carpenter, and has been utilizing that skill on the farm ever since. Five years ago, to step up the efficiency of his hog enterprise, he built a well-insulated farrowing pen, on a well-drained location. He once tried running the sows outdoors in winter, but calls the Marsden climate too rigorous for this

combines, tractors or trucks, in preparation for the coming active season. His argument is that when it is time to hay or harvest, it's too late to start repairing machinery. The shop also provides a warm spot for storing the car and tractors in winter, where they are always ready for use.

Recently he designed a cheap granary, again adapted to several uses. Framed of lumber, and 16 by 32 feet in size, it is braced for grain storage by the use of steel rods every four feet, both ways. Built with 14-foot studding, it will handle 6,000 bushels of grain, and can double as machinery storage when empty, or even as a pen for feeding off hogs.

He has about \$1,000 invested in fanning mill, Carter disk cleaner, and hand-picker belt, and devotes three winter months to cleaning seed. Most seed prices have slipped since 1946, during which he sold 2,000 bushels of seed wheat for \$8,000, but he still devotes the same amount of time during the winter months to cleaning seed, which he sells through the Saskatchewan Seed Grain Co-operative.

With a sizable feed herd, a few hogs and chickens, and a large seed business, the farm could have been considered well diversified. Nevertheless, the opportunity arose two years ago to supply the town of Marsden with milk. Archie had no milking herd,—nor any dairy experience,—but the opportunity offered a steady source of income. If the grain business should tighten he knew he would appreciate regular and reliable dollars. Following past experience, he borrowed again from the bank, bought a herd of 14 cows, including equipment to milk them and bottle the milk right on the farm. He was launched in a new business.

His new enterprise required a revision of his forage crop program. He toured Alberta's dairy farms with two neighbors, studying different methods of handling hay. The result was that last spring the community acquired its first three forage harvesters. Mr. MacIntyre now calculates that the trench silo, together with the new forage harvester and 140 acres of green oats, will take him a long way toward the forage program he needs.

Having operated the farm for less than 20 years, he has increased its acreage to five quarter-sections, with 720 acres broken. Extra range land has been added for the expanding beef herd, and he has greatly changed the original grain program during this period. He is a regular user of fertilizer, and reads a great deal in search of new ideas that he can apply on the farm. V



Archie MacIntyre exhibits two crops that make for improved farm living.

practice. The farrowing house is stove-heated and he can farrow sows in January, market them after they wean their litters, and replace them with gilts for the following year.

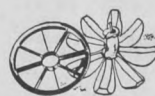
The carpentry skill has enabled him to develop a rare versatility in the farm buildings that he has constructed himself. For example, the workshop, built in the late thirties from old lumber, was stuccoed and equipped with a stove. On cold winter days one would find Archie overhauling bailers,



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## They Builded Better Than They Knew

*The early days west of Prince Albert were hard and pleasures few, but the homesteaders helped to build a new land*

by MAUD STRIKE

WITH the dawning of 1903, the district in Saskatchewan that was to become known as Three Creeks began to experience an influx of pioneers and prospective farmers. The first settler filed on a quarter of land southeast of the Shell River, but in 1905, three newcomers made their way across the river to file on land that had still to be surveyed. Saskatchewan still was known as The North-West Territories, and townsites were far apart. Many of the newcomers walked when in need of supplies, but the more fortunate possessed either oxen or horses.

Some of these new colonists had never been on a farm in their lives, coming from cities and towns across the Atlantic. The prospect of owning 160 acres of their own was too alluring to forego; but none visualized the hardships that lay ahead, or they might not have ventured forth as bravely as they did.

Land in those days had to be cleared by hand, grubbed by hand and broken with a horse- or ox-breaking plow. Brush cutters and tractors with their huge plows were unknown, and yet to be invented. Taxes were low, generally about \$2.50 a year for a quarter-section. Everything was cheap and money was scarce. Luxuries were nil; indeed, there was no money for such frivolities had they been there to obtain. Life was vastly different from life in the lands they had left behind, yet they stuck to it with a grim determination.

Three Creeks School began operating in August, 1914, and each successive year saw a different school teacher, sometimes male, sometimes female. C. K. Smith taught the 1917 term, but like others, never returned.

S. Strike, one of the first three settlers to cross to the north bank of the Shell River, became the photographer for the district, immediately upon purchasing a postcard-size camera.

THE settlers cleared and grubbed the land themselves, then broke it for crop. No one helped them, each homesteader doing his own labor, and tilling the newly won fields with oxen or horses, whichever they happened to possess at the time. Oxen were the order of the day for the majority, until such time as they were able to secure horses, and most of them raised a colt at intervals with which to replace the old.

Purebred cattle were unknown, but the scrub type were as hardy as their pioneer owners, withstanding the rough life and makeshift barns of the first settlers. Sod-roofed houses and straw-covered barns were the lot of the original settler and his stock. Generally the house was the first victim as the years advanced. Heavy rains throughout the summer months forced the farmer to build a house with a shingled roof if the family was to have a dry place to live in. One early English settler placed a large umbrella over her bed when it rained, to keep

her bed dry. When travelling the rough pioneer trails they camped either in their wagons or underneath. If it rained, they slept underneath, to get what protection the wagon box afforded.

Like all country districts, Three Creeks had its ups and downs. The 1918 flu epidemic struck there, as elsewhere, but luckily no one died of it. Whooping cough attacked most children, but such diseases as measles, mumps, and scarlet fever were unheard of until 30 years after the district saw its first settler. Cattle and horses were rarely sick, and a few simple remedies generally took care of the complaints effectively. The settler relied on his own resources, simply because he was too far away from city and town to secure items such as are obtainable so easily today.

THE first crops were stacked for threshing and generally this operation was left until wintertime. As the years passed, stack threshing became stook threshing. The modern Three Creeks is up-to-date, and every resident owns a combine.

The early settlers in the district helped each other haul the grain from the machine to a stationary granary built in the farmer's yard. Gradually, this method lost grace and became replaced with a portable granary, that could be placed wherever desired in the grain field. The first method of threshing meant a great deal of labor for the pioneer housewife, because generally she was required to feed anywhere from 18 to 20 men, probably more. The use of portable granaries cut this down to the actual threshing crew of eight to ten men, depending on how many teams and pitchers were used to bring the bundles in to the machine.

As soon as possible, every settler kept his household well supplied with home-cured pork, because this was the easiest method of keeping meat in the days when lockers and refrigerators were unknown. Prunes were the staple dried fruit: one bachelor farmer, one fall, fed his threshing crew on muskrat and cabbage, during their sojourn at his farm. Each homestead had its own vegetable garden, though one settler from Ontario refused to eat lettuce, saying that he wasn't a cow. All bread was home-made, generally from flour gristed by the local miller. In this way the farmer secured not only the flour, but also the shorts and bran from his wheat.

Although such items as raisins were sold, few fruit cakes were baked; and one wedding had an ordinary layer cake topped with plain icing for the bride's wedding cake. Every farmer regarded breakfast as incomplete without a dozen or so fried eggs on the table. Wild berries were plentiful and these supplied the pioneer housewife with much needed jam and jelly, depending on her aptitude as a cook.

Like the livestock, the poultry with mixed ancestry stood the test for hard-

iness and longevity. Nowadays, hens are disposed of when two years old, but the first settler kept the hens as long as possible, setting them year after year, instead of buying the incubator-hatched chicks of today.

THE first settlers in Three Creeks, together with their counterparts in neighboring communities, held an annual picnic at a given spot each summer. Here they met friends and acquaintances they did not often see, as they either had to walk to other homes, or ride in wagons behind slow-moving oxen.

Several residents were fortunate enough to own buggies and cutters a few years after arrival, but there were others not so lucky. They were compelled to remain with the wagon and sleigh as a means of conveyance. Nowadays every farmer owns a car or a truck. What would the early settler have thought had he been rich enough to possess such a luxury, with which to jog over rough wagon trails?

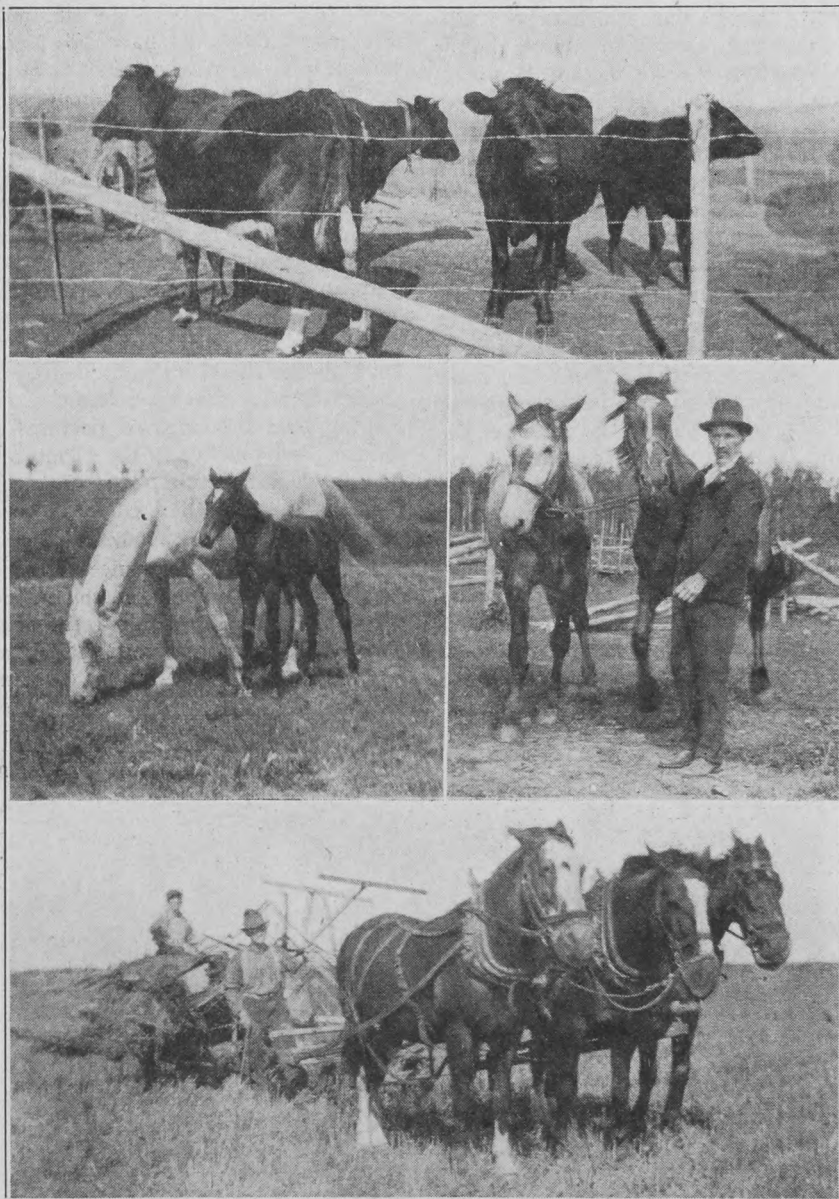
MANY of the older settlers have passed on, and their farms now belong to others. One returned to his old home in England, where he now resides. Several sold their farms and returned to their former homes, going the way of all flesh after leaving the district.

Like the remainder of the Canadian West, this district started from scratch. Now it is up-to-date, with cars and trucks and every conceivable item of modern farm machinery. Homes have been rebuilt and modern-

ized by those still remaining, and several families have moved to town to live, coming out to farm only during the spring, summer and fall months. Every arable acre has been used for crops, or is in the process of being used, leaving only a few trees of a once vast forest tract. In some instances, windbreaks have been planted around farm buildings. This has brought an influx of the maple and caragana, both previously unknown in this part of the country.

Rough wagon trails have disappeared and have been replaced by built roads. There has been room for improvement here and this is now gradually being accomplished. Oxen have long since disappeared, and the horse is following swiftly into oblivion. A few horses are kept, but rarely used; and it is a rare thing to see a farmer headed for town, driving a team. Cars and trucks are used both winter and summer. Snowplows are kept handy in case a bad storm fills the road with snow—a far cry from 1903-05, when the first settlers arrived to face a country without even a trail, or a surveyor's mark, to guide them. The district abounded with Indian trails, but the white settler had to make his own.

A rather crude wooden bridge was made for the first crossing of the Shell, but after a few years this was replaced by a government-sponsored affair, with plank flooring and steel girders. The first bridge was built by an early settler to the east of the district. He homesteaded in 1907, and



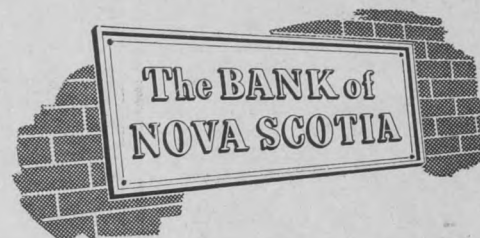
Top: Grade or scrub cattle were the rule but, like their owners, were hardy. Center: (left) This colt (1919) farm bred for farm work, later weighed a ton; (right) August Stahle, an early Three Creeks settler, photographed in 1920. Bottom: E. and W. Shaw, also early settlers, shown in harvest of 1921.



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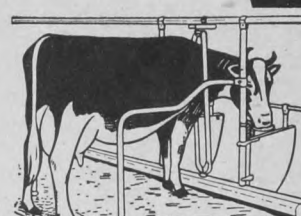
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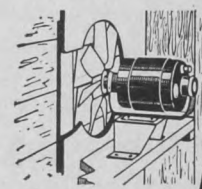


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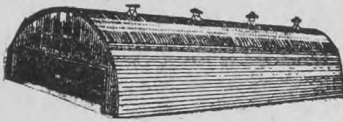
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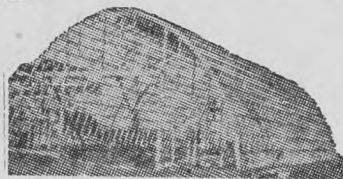
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as Prince Albert was the nearest supply center for the settlers, he felt the necessity of having a bridge close by his home, putting him on a straight trail for what is now a city.

This bridge had an unhappy ending. One farmer named Shann steadfastly refused to use the new steel bridge, and insisted on using the old, rickety affair. This procedure went on for some time, until one Sunday, while returning from a shopping jaunt in Prince Albert, the bridge crashed into the river, carrying his team, wagon and supplies with it. Groceries had to be purchased in quantities in those days as trips to the stores were few and far between. The loss from such a crash can be imagined. Among his purchases was a 100-pound bag of sugar: it was a total loss. He had brought lumber as well, and this floated downstream and had to be rescued the following day with the help of neighbors. Only after a hard struggle were the horses and wagon brought to the bank. From that time he used the new bridge without demur. V

## Willing to Pay for A.I.

HOW much of a nuisance is a bull? Would artificial insemination be much better? Wainwright, Alberta, is not a very likely spot to get answers to these questions, but a few dairy farmers there have already demonstrated that in their opinion a bull is too much of a nuisance. Moreover, they have shown the courage of their convictions by beginning an artificial insemination project of their own.

Wainwright is not an established dairying district. It has little more than the Wainwright military camp and the town itself to provide a market. Consequently, service fees for the few cows that must be bred, are high: they run \$10 for the first service; \$5 for the second; and \$4 for the third.

Even with such prospects the owner of the biggest local dairy herd, Jack Spady, was soon anxious to get going this spring, when the project was in the wind. He already had two bulls, but wanted to get rid of them in a hurry. A few other dairymen were also interested. Even B. H. Brower, who was using a richly bred Holstein bull, was interested. The dairymen agreed with Jack Spady who said, "I wouldn't want to feed my neighbor's bull for less than \$25 a month, and I would hate to do it even then."

They saw that they could get the use of better bulls than they could buy themselves, and also rid their premises of dangerous and troublesome animals. Consequently when the local veterinarian, Dr. J. M. Saville, offered to begin an artificial insemination service, they jumped at it despite the expense.

The veterinarian had to buy the semen from the Milner, B.C., unit; and since only about 150 cows are expected (for which he would have to keep semen ready at all time), the price had to be steep. Nevertheless, with the program now launched, dairymen are still enthusiastic. A.I. abolishes the need for a farm-kept bull, and it permits dairymen to replace him with a cow or two. These men are willing to pay for the service. V

## Dairyman With a Goal

Continued from page 9

and blown into power boxes. Operating from power take-offs, the tractor-drawn boxes will pour feed into the troughs as they move along, and the latter will be scrubbed clean every day so that no left-overs will accumulate and contaminate them. Both grass and silage will be fed in this manner; there will be no self-feeding from stacks or silos because Hubner thinks that method is wasteful and unsanitary.

WITH adequate irrigation water and fertilizer, farmers in the Spallumcheen area can count on taking off four forage crops in a normal year, and at least three in a bad year. When cutting for feeding, a six-inch cut of grass can be harvested every ten days in an average season, which usually lasts from May 1 to the end of October. For winter feeding, the first cutting is generally put up as silage, the second as hay, and the final cuttings either as hay or silage, depending on the weather and the needs of each particular operator.

For the past two years Fritz Hubner has been building up a supply of winter feed in preparation for the arrival of his herd. Over against the hillside, where a bulldozer was gouging out a site for the farm buildings when The Country Guide called last July, about 800 tons of grass silage had already been placed in a huge bunker silo, and stacks of baled hay were taking shape around the perimeter of the site. Although the farm is expected to need three permanent hired hands eventually, all work to date has been done by the four Hubners.

At the present time, production is centered on 160 acres of bottom land which has been set aside for green pasture. This was seeded with a grass mixture containing orchard grass (eight pounds), alta fescue, (four pounds), brome grass (three pounds), and white Dutch clover (half a pound), for a total of 15½ pounds to the acre. Sometimes Fritz alternates the white Dutch with ladino clover or alfalfa, depending on the nature of the land being seeded. This pasture will eventually supply the clipped grass ration, when the dairy farm gets under operation. Last year this land absorbed a carload-and-a-half of superphosphate and nitroprills, and large quantities of irrigation water. But this treatment was by no means wasted. A 60-acre sector of it won its owner the

"Best New Seeding" mentioned earlier, and when we visited the place, the grass in that field stood from 16 to 18 inches high—a scant two weeks after the first cutting.

Hubner's forage production is centered around an extensive irrigation system which draws its water from a three-mile-long slough in the valley bottom. Three dams at the edge of the slough hold the supply back from the deep canal Fritz has constructed to bring the water in close to his fields; when opened, these dams can fill the canal to the brim in two hours' time. At the far end, a two h.p. pumping unit can deliver 1,150 gallons of water a minute through one-and-three-quarter miles of eight-inch aluminum pipe to operate 170 No. 40 Rainbird sprinklers. Hubner's crops are given a four-hour soaking every ten days, and it takes eight days to cover the whole farm with his present equipment. Eventually, Fritz will have electric power brought in from the existing line, six miles away, and the diesel unit will be retained as an auxiliary.

Including stock, the new Hubner farm is expected to cost its owner about \$150,000, not counting \$60,000 worth of mechanical equipment now in use, or the \$20,000 irrigation system. Present machines include four tractors, two power boxes, and two forage harvesters, all of which are in continuous use. It all adds up to a whale of an operation, and is drawing a good deal of comment in the North Okanagan, both favorable and otherwise.

Pointing out that there is a 62 per cent fluid milk surplus in the area now, some dairymen have been outspoken in their criticism of Fritz Hubner's plans. Dairy leaders estimate that his production alone will raise the surplus to around 70 per cent, with the result that all producers will have to take a lower price for their milk. Hoping to get Hubner to change his plans, agricultural officials suggested that he try large-scale sheep raising on his new place. There was even talk that interested parties would let him have all the sheep he wanted, free of charge, if he'd give the scheme a try. Raising beef on irrigated pastures is an accepted practice in the Okanagan now, and agriculturists are convinced that the same method could be successfully applied to sheep.

But Fritz is a man who isn't easily persuaded from any chosen course. "In a free country you should be able to choose the business you want," he maintains. V



Stacks of baled hay around perimeter of farm site will provide roughage for several hundred registered Holsteins which have already been ordered.

# Fitzroy Harbour Fights Its Own Fires

*Necessity brought the community to the point where something had to be done—and they did it*

by VERA FIDLER

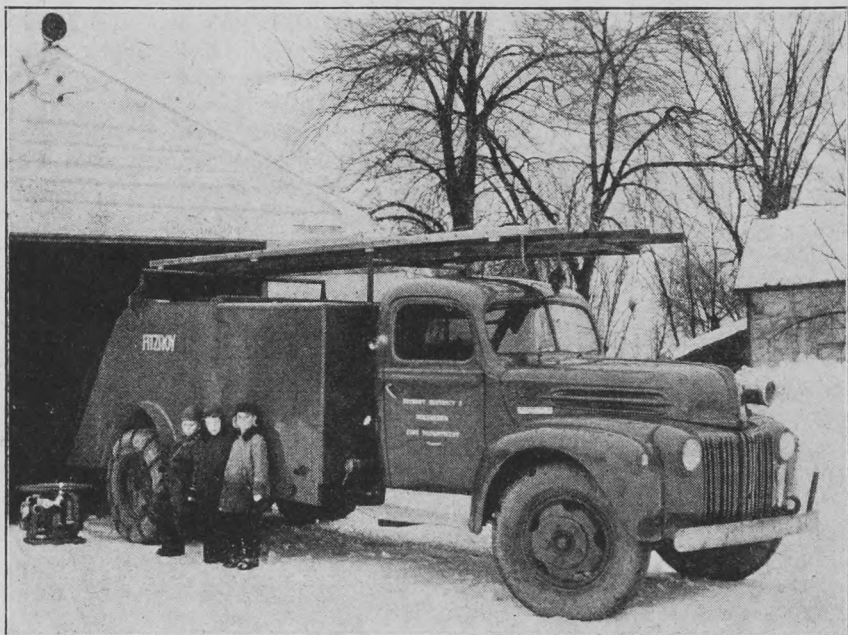
THE cry of "Fire!" is probably the most dreaded sound anywhere. But in rural communities it is doubly fearful, because more often than not, there is no firefighting equipment in the district, and a neighboring town, probably some distance away, has to be relied on for protection. Too often, by the time a fire engine arrives, there is very little left to save.

Until two years ago the village of Fitzroy Harbour, Ontario, had that problem. When there was a fire they had to rely on getting help from the town of Arnprior. Then when that town began to rapidly expand, it was forced to discontinue answering calls to Fitzroy Harbour, so the village was left completely unprotected.

After three or four serious fires, the residents decided that something would have to be done about this dangerous situation. The Community and

18 by 18-inch sheet steel baffles. These break up the surging of the water, and minimize the roll, which could throw the truck off balance and cause it to turn over when rounding corners. To further control the water, the tank was built in a unique "step design." This was accomplished by means of a built-on compartment to make the forward end of the tank higher than the rest. When the tank is filled with water, the long lower section is placed under pressure by the head of water in the forward and higher compartment and the roll is completely stopped. Only the small amount of water in the forward portion of the tank can roll and this is heavily baffled so no roll can start.

To protect the tank from freezing in winter, it was insulated with Fibreglas, three inches in thickness on the bottom and two inches thick around



*Fitzroy Harbour's new home-built fire truck, which was built locally to take care of the needs of a community of 300 people, and the adjacent farms.*

Recreation Club called a meeting of villagers and local farmers, and it was agreed that they would form their own fire department. A committee was formed to take care of financing and building a fire truck.

ALTHOUGH Fitzroy Harbour is a small community of perhaps some 300 people, they soon raised around \$2,000 through public subscriptions and social events. A used three-ton truck with dual rear wheels was bought and the nearby Hydro company, where many of the villagers are employed, offered the use of their machine shop, where the work of converting the truck for firefighting purposes could be done.

Lloyd Ringland, an expert machinist and welder, was appointed to design and build the truck. After considering several ideas aimed at simplifying operation by volunteer firemen, he decided on one which he considered best for the purpose. Working in their off-duty hours, he and several volunteers set to work.

First, they built a 750-gallon tank, welding at intervals around the inside,

the sides and top. The whole tank was then covered with 18-gauge sheet steel. As a further safeguard against freezing, a 500-watt, immersion-type electric heater is used and it maintains the water at 75 degrees F. in below zero temperatures.

A Bickle-Seagrave A-17 rotary booster pump, with a capacity of 150 gallons per minute, at 120 lbs. pressure, was installed. This is connected in direct alignment to the power take-off.

Other equipment includes a portable centrifugal pump, with 400 feet of 2½-inch hose, for filling the tank in hard-to-get-to places. Two 150-foot sections of 1½-inch, rubber-lined, double-jacket hose, connected to the rear discharge pipe, for quick laying, are carried on hose trays; also 600 feet of forestry-type hose for bush fires. Fog nozzles are used with both types of hose. A 36-foot extension ladder and the usual hand fire extinguishers and axes complete the equipment.

Naturally, every person in the community took a personal interest in the

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# ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

building of the fire truck. When it was finished and the first practice was announced, almost every man in the village, and over 20 farmers from the surrounding district, turned out. Weekly practices followed, during which they learned how to operate the truck and the pump, how to lay hose and couple it, how to use the fog nozzle, and the best ways to fight fire.

Now, they have regular practices once a week in the spring, and one about every three weeks in the summer. In the winter they skip the practice sessions, but run the truck motor for 15 minutes or so, once a week. The fire brigade consists of 20 men, made up of a fire chief, four captains and 15 firemen, all volunteers.

The Community Club finances operations by putting on one dance and one social during the year. These usually net about \$400, and this sees them through. For calls outside the district, they charge \$25, and this adds to their funds.

The Fitzroy Harbour venture is an example of what a group of public-minded citizens can do. Their accomplishment also suggests the reason why no rural community should be without fire protection. V

## Maritimes Get Land From the Sea

*Continued from page 7*

provincial governments undertake to reclaim and develop the land thus protected.

Before any project is undertaken, the individual marsh owners must be organized and incorporated as a "Marsh Body," as required by the province. M.M.R.A. surveys and gathers data on the proposed works, after which complete information is presented to the Advisory Committee provided for in the Federal Act. This committee consists of farmers, as well as provincial and federal representatives, including Mr. Parker. It must approve each project before it is presented to the Federal minister for approval. Similarly, each province, in its complementary legislation, has provided for a marshland reclamation commission, which must recommend any work undertaken under the provincial legislation.

THE idea of reclaiming Maritime marshland from the sea is by no means new. Indeed, early records indicate, according to Mr. Parker, the first attempt to reclaim some of this land was made more than 325 years ago. This work must have been begun not more than 20 years after the first crops were grown in the vicinity of

Annapolis Royal (1606-07), the first permanent establishment of the early French in Canada. Between that early date and the beginning of the present century, most of the marshland areas had been reclaimed and used in the development of agriculture.

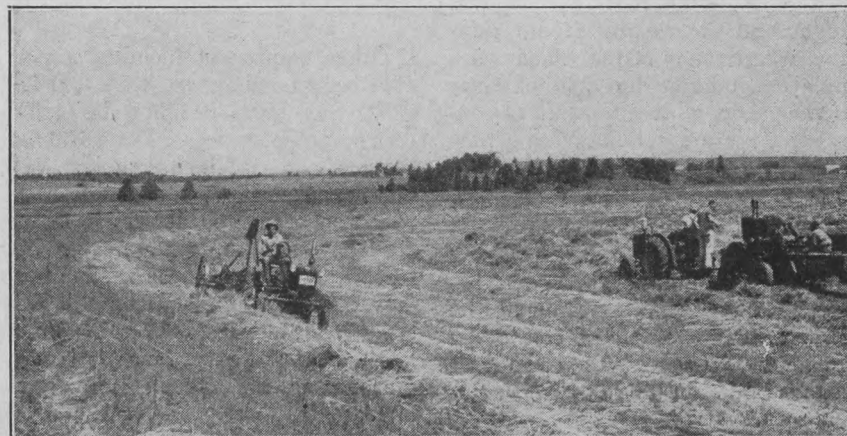
However, a great deal of what had been achieved during that long period was threatened during the next 40 years, when a great many of the protective dikes and aboteaux were neglected, because of a combination of unfavorable labor conditions and poor markets. Some of this land, hitherto protected, was lost to the sea, and some portions had become badly eroded. By 1943, so many areas had been so much neglected that the federal and provincial governments began a joint program of emergency reclamation. From 1945 to 1948, an agreement existed under which the federal government became responsible for one-third of the cost of such work, the balance to be borne equally by the provinces and the marsh owners. During the whole of the emergency protection period (1943-1948) Ottawa expended just over \$300,000.

After M.M.R.A. was established and agreements reached with the provinces, it was estimated that to achieve maximum practicable reclamation of the marshlands might require about ten years. From 1949 to March 31, 1954, the federal government expended over \$6,000,000, which suggests that total costs to date have been \$8,000,000 or more. Similarly, projects involving a total acreage of nearly 70,000 acres on March 31, 1954, suggest that acreage involved up to the present time may have run to 75,000 acres.

The projects vary in size from 34 acres, to 5,875 acres for the Shepody project. In all, more than 150 projects have been undertaken, many of which are quite small, and involve very little federal expenditure. Ten projects have cost well over \$100,000 each, the largest being the Shepody area.

RECLAIMED marshland soils, if not the most fertile to be found in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, are certainly among the most fertile. They are considered to be vital to the agricultural economy of the provinces, primarily because they are usually operated in conjunction with upland farms much larger in total acreage, and serve to balance individual farm enterprises.

The soil itself is generally classified as a silt, or silty clay. It may contain up to 20 per cent of fine sand, from 20 to 80 per cent of silt, and from five to 50 per cent of clay. Soil structure does



Prior to 1950 this land near Truro, N.S., was partially flooded. Picture in 1953 shows harvest of timothy and clover—note cutting on slope of dike.

not vary too much, but generally speaking, marshland soils are "weak," because the natural water content may reach as much as 80 per cent of dry weight and average around 50 per cent. The water content is, in fact, so high that if the soil is agitated by machines it may become fluid, especially if samples are taken at, or below, the water table.

In reclaiming this soil from the sea three steps are necessary, according to Mr. Parker, before they can be classified as good productive land. The first, of course, is protection from salt. The second is adequate fresh water drainage, and the third is lime. "On good-sized plots of protected and well-drained land," said Mr. Parker, "it is not unreasonable to expect an increase in returns of around \$16 for every dollar invested in lime." Once reclaimed, drained, and limed, marshland in special areas has been successfully used for such crops as potatoes and tree fruits. Its most generally satisfactory use, however, would appear to be in connection with grassland farming. Hay yields of around 3.5 tons per acre are not unusual, and as much as five tons has been secured. At the Experimental Station at Napan, in 1953, beef production per acre reached 560 pounds during the six-month (May to October) pasture season. No irrigation was used, but precipitation averages 32 to 38 inches.

For one who, after a fairly wide acquaintance with the diversities of soil, topography, climate, and productivity of agriculture in Ontario, has come to recognize somewhat similar diversities within the prairie provinces, it was an arresting experience to see the efforts now being made to utilize more efficiently in the Maritime provinces the land given up by the sea, over such a very long period. It was, too, a rather startling illustration of the need for conservation, to realize that at one time or another,

Women are wiser than men, because they know less and understand more.—James Steven.

about 90,000 acres of this land had previously been reclaimed—mostly by hand, with the aid of simple tools. Proof that we are indeed living in a different age is also forced upon us in another way. Whereas the early dikers and reclaimers of this land fought off the sea by their own persistence and determination, the present generation are largely the beneficiaries of the machine age and of science; and, in addition, pay only a small share of the direct cost themselves.

It was fairly easy to see that the people of certain areas appreciate the possibilities of marshland farming more than was evidenced in other areas. Such differences, however, should probably not be regarded as strange. Whatever increased productivity may be achieved by some communities and individuals, or neglected by others, it may well be that the marshland areas as a whole will ultimately mean as much to the economies of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia as irrigation has meant to other parts of Canada. There is, also, a broad sense in which the cost does not matter too much, if the general result is good and the entire economy benefited.

## Potato Board Disapproved

THE Prince Edward Island government recently appointed six new members to the provincial Potato Marketing Board, and suspended sections of the Potato Marketing scheme which provide for the democratic election of members. This move was condemned by 15 directors of the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture at a meeting called to discuss the government's action, as being out of keeping with accepted principles of producer-controlled marketing. In a care-

fully worded statement, the directors expressed their disapproval on five different grounds: (1) The new Potato Board is a government Board and, as such, is not responsible to the growers for its actions, although the purpose of marketing legislation is to place control in the hands of producers; (2) As urged by the Federation, the Board members should be bona fide producers, which would complement a similar organization soon to be set up by potato dealers; (3) Some of the members of the new Board are opposed to marketing legislation in principle and have never supported it in the past; (4) Wishes of a majority of

producers as expressed in two plebiscites have been disregarded; and (5) Federal support for the potato industry would hinge on there being a recognized agency of the producers to bargain with.



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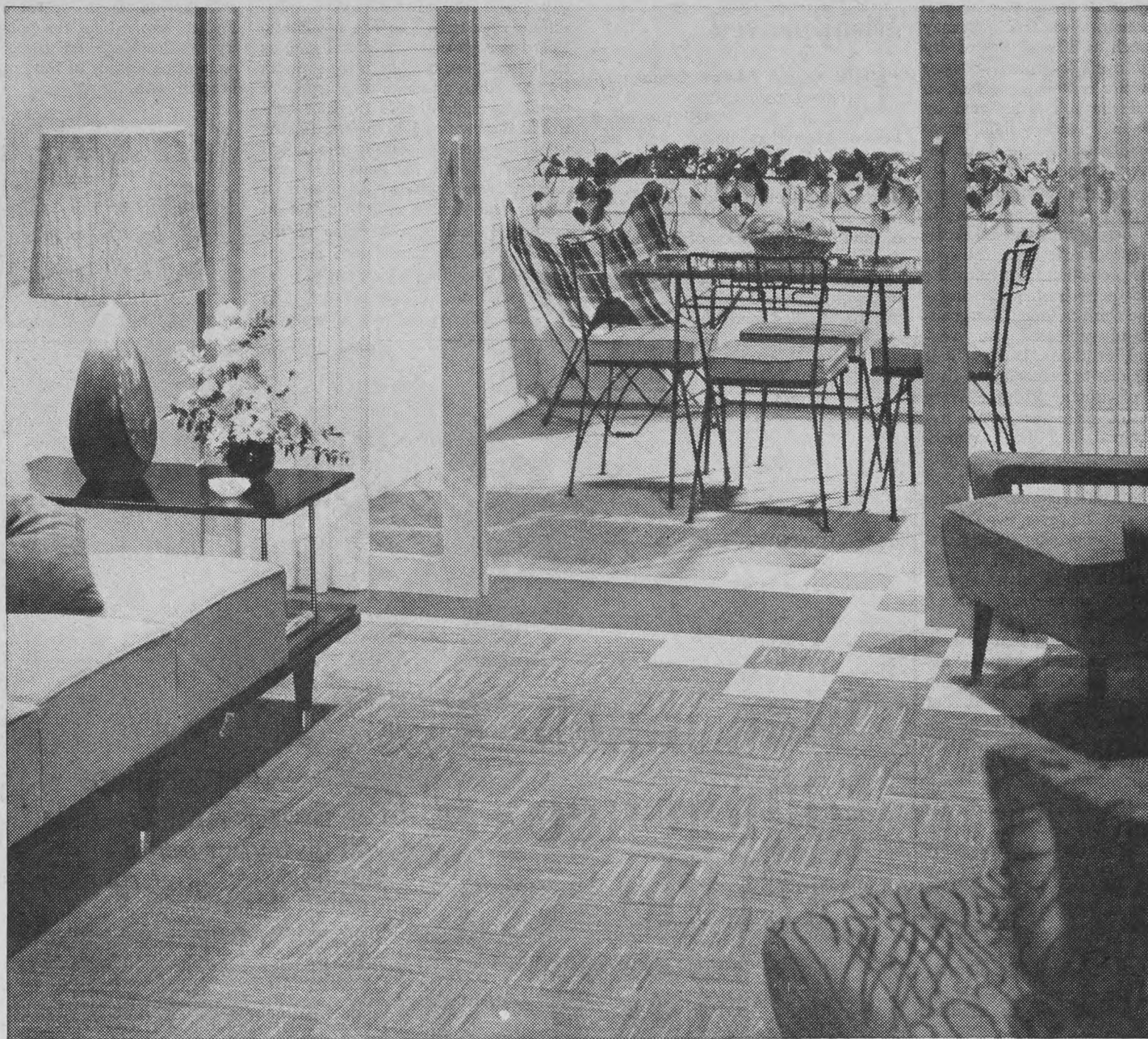
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# The Countrywoman

by AMY J. ROE



## Salute to the Future

FROM our mid-way position, we look east and look west and welcome many new members to The Country Guide family circle of readers. In last month's issue we paid special tribute to the past, reflecting stories of people and events in two provinces. In this, we salute the future as a national farm and home magazine and express the hope that we may play an able part in unfolding its story.

Many forces have worked, and are at work today, bringing the people of Canada closer together, to make their communication simpler and quicker: railways and other transport, telephones, movie actuality and news reels, radio and television. Though our country is vast, we are getting better acquainted with each other, with a consequent greater interest in other localities.

During war and postwar years there was a greater movement of people from one part of the country to another. We have experienced a great increase of newcomers from other lands. Our fast-growing cities have sprawled out over what was

previously farm lands. Industrial growth has drawn many away from farms. Some areas of Canada are further away than others, from the pioneer stage, which makes heavy demands for capital to be put into productive goods, rather than the comforts and amenities of living. All of the provinces have some frontier settlements and pioneer fringes contrasting with comparative luxury and ease of modern living in long settled, highly productive areas.

Though we may belong to a particular region of Canada, which makes first claim upon our interest, loyalty and affection, there is a special joy in our hearts and minds in identifying ourselves as citizens of Canada. Sometimes that warm glow comes at a meeting when we hear representatives of all ten provinces speak, or view a movie newsreel or an actuality feature, or listen to a radio program which somehow for us typifies Canada and things Canadian.

Such indeed must have been the experience of those hearing the CBC broadcast on November 11, 1951, on the occasion of the departure of Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth) and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, aboard a ship tossing on a blowy sea, out of the port of St. John's, Newfoundland.

Then over more than 10,000 miles of network lines linked together, six choirs in six Canadian cities composed of 100 mixed voices, accompanied by an orchestra in a Toronto studio, sang three farewell selections. The final piece, Auld Lang

Syne, was rendered in verse sequence by choirs in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Montreal, Halifax and St. John's, with Toronto choir joining in in each chorus, and the last verse in unison by all six choirs. Canadian voices, by the magic of radio, raised simultaneously in song from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Though separated by space and time-zone, they were united in spirit, paying loving and loyal tribute to a young, fair, gallant Royal couple, called by destiny to fill high positions and to face great responsibilities.

We, like our American neighbors, are a people of mixed races, with family ties in many old homelands, which serve to add variety, color and richness to our nation. Through the generations, families have tended to scatter across the wide expanse of Canada. There has been a blending, to some degree, of customs, skills, ambitions and ways of life.

Here as in other lands, the countryman, the countrywoman and their family stand somewhat apart in their special work, social life and interests. They play a distinctive and important part in the nation's economy and thought. A love of the land, a liking for country living is deeply ingrained in those who make farming their chosen occupation, and has been through the ages.

Differences in types of farms, methods of work, tools and machinery may vary from region to region in Canada. But east or west, there are marked similarities in the occupation of farm homemakers, in their daily tasks and household equipment. Inspiration for the spirit, (Please turn to page 61)

## Club Women's Creed

KEEP us O Lord from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word and deed ❧ ❧

Let us be done with fault finding and leave off self seeking ❧ ❧

May we put away all pretence and meet each other face to face, without self pity and without prejudice ❧ ❧

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous ❧ ❧

Let us take time for all things: make us grow calm, serene, gentle ❧ ❧

Teach us to put into action our better impulses straight forward and unafraid ❧

Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are one ❧ ❧

And may we strive to touch and know the great human heart common to us all, and O Lord God let us not forget to be kind ❧

Mary Stewart

(For Reprints of Creed see page 61)

FOR many years, women's clubs in Canada, United States, Britain and other countries have used a prayer for the opening or closing ceremonies of their meetings. Sometimes it is simply read by one member, at others it is repeated in unison by all those present. They have usually called it Our Creed or The Club Women's Creed and as such it is widely known and popular on this continent, especially in small towns and rural districts. Widespread usage has resulted in some changes. The author gave it a title: "Collect For Club Women," when it first appeared in an obscure corner of a well known American magazine.

Mary Stewart wrote the prayer in 1904, while she was principal of Longmont high school in Colorado. We are indebted to a Canadian woman, the late Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.B.E., for a true and correct version of the prayer, as here presented, and a little of the author's own personal story. Mrs. Watt came back to Canada in 1939 to attend and speak at the eleventh biennial conference of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, in Edmonton. She it was, who had carried the Women's Institute idea to Britain and later became president of the Associated Country Women of the World.

Mary Stewart, while visiting in England had spent some time with Mrs. Watt at her English home. Errors had crept into the various printings of the prayer, especially in the first and second-last lines. These errors marred the beauty of expression and the clarity of thought of this prayer. The author expressed concern about the garbled versions which were being circulated. In the studio of Robin Watt, the artist son of Mrs. Alfred Watt, Miss Stewart personally supervised his work of copying out the prayer, down even to fine points of placing a comma or a period. Reproduced here is Robin Watt's copy done by hand, under Mary Stewart's close supervision. The title, it should be noted is set in type, to identify it.

It is interesting to note that Miss Stewart permitted the title to be left off the verified copy done by Robin Watt. Possibly by that time she realized that many who used it had already made their own selection.

"It was written as a prayer for the day. I called it a 'Collect For Club Women,' because I felt that women working together with wide interests for large ends was a new thing under the sun and that, perhaps they had need for special petition and meditation of their own. This must have been true for the Collect has found its way about the world, especially wherever English speaking women get together. Indeed it has been reprinted in many forms in many lands."

It was officially adopted by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, meeting at their second convention in 1920, at St. Paul. It was read into the printed records of the Congress of the United States by Senator Tobey of New Hampshire, at the closing session in 1949.

Mary Stewart held a number of special teaching posts in Colorado and Montana. In 1921 she became a junior guidance and placement officer in the pioneer period of U.S. employment services. She continued to write for American newspapers and magazines. Her Alma Mater, the University of Colorado, in 1927 conferred upon her an honorary degree in recognition of her distinguished work in education, social and civic service.



# Wanted...

by ARKLEY LUCILLE O'FARRELL

*A dream carried in a woman's heart to her new homeland*

## ...an English Garden

**S**HE was a woman in her fifties when she came to Saskatchewan from Bath, Somerset, England, to become Mrs. William Clark of Maple Creek. A sensitive, refined woman, accustomed to gracious living. The hardest work she had ever done previously was to manage the servants on a large estate. Yet, on their own Canadian prairie farm, Ada Clark worked shoulder to shoulder with Bill, her husband, sometimes even going into the field when he was unable to do so.

She loved working outside, loved the land and the independence it gave. Cheerfully she helped with Bill's big garden, some eight acres of vegetables, small fruits and trees. She raised turkeys. She planted shrubs and flowers.

More than anything else, she wanted an English garden on these lonely prairies. She dreamed of it and worked for it, planting shrubs, and perennials and vines. The winds blew and the drought came, but Ada Clark conquered her discouragement and went right on planting more flowers.

**S**HE had known Bill Clark for many years. Lame from an illness in early childhood, he had sought to make his fortune in Canada, "the land of opportunity." In 1917 he returned to England and renewed his acquaintance with Ada. However, it wasn't until 1927, when her employer of many years died, that she felt free to join Bill in Canada. "I'll come out and see what I can do for you, Bill," she wrote. And so she came to Canada.

They were married immediately and went to live on the Jim McDougal farm a few miles west of Maple Creek. Here Ada got her first taste of western prairie farm life.

That was the year the mosquitoes were the worst they perhaps have ever been. They simply poisoned poor Ada, accustomed to nothing like them in all her life. The crop turned out to be the heaviest in years, with a wet harvest that delayed threshing so that Ada had a threshing gang to feed for most of a month.

Bill was scared she might go back to England. But she didn't. Neighbors were kind to help, and she stayed. Then, as a final climax to her first year in Canada, while feeding the chickens she slipped on some ice, fell and broke her hip!

Bill said he never heard a murmur out of her. Some of her women friends knew that Ada Clark's spirit had about reached the breaking point and they were genuinely concerned. The minister who had married the Clarks shrewdly estimated Ada's mettle. "People like Mrs. Clark can always stand up to real trouble when it comes," he assured her friends. And he was right!

Yet only Ada herself knew how much strength another woman had given her to do this. Sharing their

hospital ward was a Mrs. John Parsonage, an early pioneer of the Maple Creek district. Her wisdom and counsel was just what Ada needed to bolster her flagging courage. In all the years after, she treasured that association with Mrs. Parsonage, and remembered gratefully their intimate little talks.

**A** YEAR or so after the accident, Bill bought a farm of his own, not far from the McDougal place. Here it was that Ada took root. Here she grew flowers. It became her dearest wish to reproduce an English garden there on their Saskatchewan farm,—a garden complete with fountain that would play in the clear moonlight after the long day was done.

Ada thought prairie farmers had to work too hard without any holidays. She yearned to bring to her farmer husband the restful beauty of an English garden to compensate for the drudgery he endured uncomplainingly. She wanted it too, for herself, to still her heart's tugging nostalgia for the old land.

The Clarks worked together for Ada's dream. They seldom left the farm except for necessary trips to town, and to attend church at the Royal Edward school just a short distance from their home. Ada appreciated the privilege of these services, out in the country. She loved to attend and join in the singing of hymns with her husband.

He hadn't been able to adjust himself to the Anglican service so familiar to her. "Ada, I don't know when to stand up and when to sit down," he complained gently.

"Never mind, Bill, we'll go to the other service," she told him. So they

went to the United Church services in the schoolhouse.

"She was a most appreciative person," a friend of hers said to us. "She greatly valued those church services. She was a woman of refinement. Life here was so completely different for her. She could enjoy tea served on the kitchen table, but sometimes when I'd carry it on a tray to the living-room, and we would have it together there, I could see how she appreciated such little niceties of living."

"She gets along with everybody," commented a neighbor, "and she is well liked!" Everyone seemed to recognize that she brought something different into their lives, something gracious, and lovely.

Together Ada and Bill Clark built their home with its surrounding trees, lilacs, flowers and fruits. Each year Ada and Bill won many awards at the local fair for their vegetables and flowers.

It was one of Ada's happiest days when Bill finished the glassed-in porch for her magnificent house plants. Near its door she planted rows of flowers, mostly pansies. At the end of the house, she built a lattice for vines to make a small arbor. Some day, perhaps, there would be that fountain out front . . .

**S**ASKATCHEWAN'S Golden Jubilee year dawned. Ada busied herself with coaxing the Amaryllis into bloom for Easter. Then the Jubilee bells started to ring in honor of our pioneers and all the many other people who had had a hand in building our province. Not the least of these was a small, gracious lady of stout heart who had spent so many years in trying

to reproduce an English garden on the prairies.

Bill and Ada went to the Easter service at the Royal Edward school. And Ada's heart lifted with happiness at sight of her neighbors in the congregation, especially those who only that morning had thought they would not be able to attend. It was Easter! All about new life was stirring, new hope! The bells were ringing in our ears and hearts.

Joyfully Ada sang the opening Easter hymn. When it ended, she handed the book to her husband, then she suddenly collapsed in his arms.

Ada Clark's valiant spirit had taken its flight to the beautiful gardens of God.

**T**HE Amaryllis had put forth its richest blooms. Later the peony bed was a mass of pink blossoms. Spring came in all its glory! Tall trees bent lovingly to shelter the garden seat where Ada had often sat. Fresh green leaves shimmered in the sunlight. Everywhere about the flowers and shrubs she had loved, called out to finish what she had begun—an English garden on the prairie.

Bill Clark planted pansies beside the porch door, just as Ada had done each year.

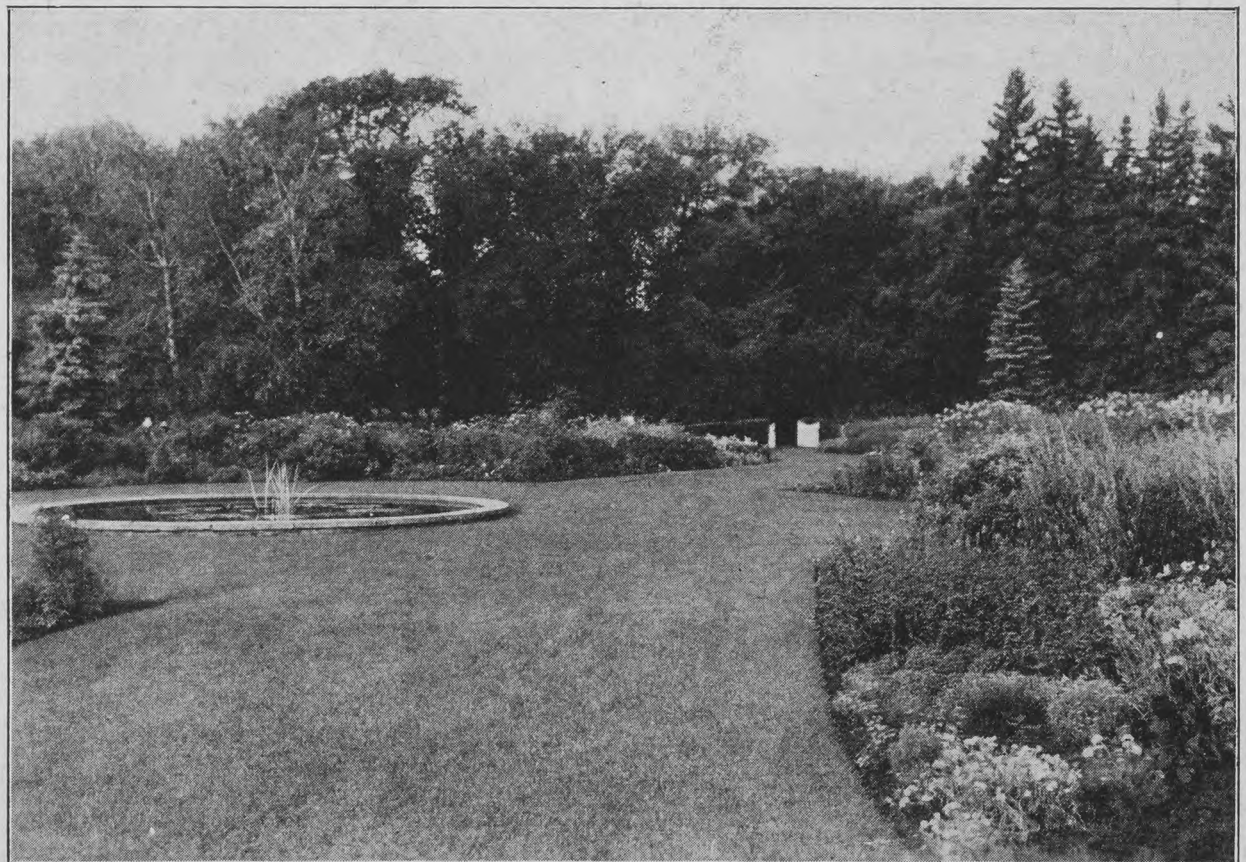
Her neighbor up the road paused in the day's tasks and said softly, "She was a lovely person to know."



How best may one define or describe an English garden?

That question was put to Hector Macdonald, now supervisor of Assiniboine Park, Winnipeg. He had re-

(Please turn to page 61)



*Somewhat in English garden style, a three-acre former nursery plot, Assiniboine Park, Winnipeg.*

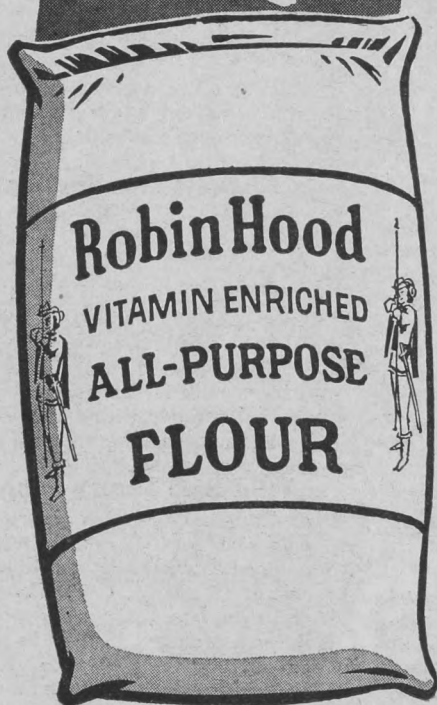
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- COFFEE CAKE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- ROLLS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- BROWN ROLLS — 1st, 3rd prize
- BRAN MUFFINS — 1st, 3rd prize
- DATE & NUT LOAF — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- TEA BISCUITS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- SPONGE CAKE — 1st, 2nd prize
- WHITE CAKE — 1st, 2nd prize
- CHOCOLATE LAYER — 1st prize
- BUTTER TARTS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- SHORTBREAD — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- DROP COOKIES — 1st, 3rd prize
- PEACH PIE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- APPLE PIE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- RAISIN PIE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize

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## Wild Rice

*Its novel and subtle flavor has rapidly made this native cereal  
a popular item of food, served with meat meals*

by EFFIE BUTLER

**W**ILD rice, a cereal which until a decade or two ago, was known only to Indians and game birds, has become a delicacy of high renown in the food world.

The lakes of Manitoba and Ontario produce more wild rice than those in any other province. Early autumn finds many Indians out harvesting this wild aquatic crop. The bulk of the crop is harvested by commercial operators who have devised mechanical ways and means to harvest and process the wild rice until it is ready to be packaged for the market.

Wild rice is procurable in most large retail food stores and is sold in half- and one-pound packages. It finds a ready demand in a "luxury" class market, retailing at about \$2.50 a pound. Even at this high price, it is gaining popularity rapidly. Besides giving just the right touch when used as stuffing for wild fowl, it can be served with any game, venison, or meat dishes. It combines deliciously with baked white fish and its subtle flavor adds interest to almost any dinner.

The following recipes call for cooked wild rice. This first cooking is the most important step in the preparation of any wild rice dish, yet it is a simple process. Best results are obtained only when the rice is soaked overnight. When judging quantities remember wild rice swells to approximately four times its normal size when cooked. Wild rice is highly absorptive of liquids. This is an added good feature in using it with leftover foods.

### Boiled Wild Rice

Wash the rice in several waters. Add 1 c. rice to 4 c. of rapidly boiling water. Boil rapidly for 10 minutes. Drain and rinse well. Cover again with the same amount of boiling water to which add 2 to 3 tablespoons of salt. Allow to boil for 15 to 20 minutes or until rice is tender. Do not stir, except lightly, and only with a fork. Drain when cooked. Rinse well in clear, cold water and the rice is ready to be added to other ingredients to make up many tempting dishes.

### Wild Rice Dressing

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 to 3 c. cooked wild rice | 1 c. chopped celery |
| 2 T. butter                | ¼ tsp. marjoram     |
| ½ c. minced onion          | ¼ tsp. pepper       |
| 1 tsp. salt                | ½ tsp. thyme        |

Melt butter in pan and cook onions until light brown. Add celery and cook a few minutes. Add rice and season. Mix lightly. Good stuffing for all game birds, venison or fish.

This dressing may be varied by omitting the onion and adding sliced mushrooms with 1 tsp. poultry dressing for seasoning. May be used as a separate accompaniment with any roast.

### Wild Rice Meat Loaf

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 lb. beef, venison, or pork                 | 1 c. tomato soup         |
| 2 c. cooked wild rice                        | Salt and pepper to taste |
| ¾ c. minced bacon if beef or venison is used | ½ tsp. dry mustard       |
|  | 1 egg                    |
|  | 1 c. grated carrots      |
|  | 2 T. minced onion        |

Blend all ingredients except the tomato soup. Place in greased baking dish, pour tomato soup over top and bake in a moderate oven for 1 hour. Serve hot.

### Wild Rice Casserole

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3 to 4 c. cooked wild rice    | 1 green pepper, chopped |
| 6 pork chops or 1 lb. sausage | 1 c. milk               |
| 1 c. chopped celery           | 1 can mushroom soup     |
| ½ c. chopped onion            | ½ tsp. salt             |
|                               | ¼ tsp. pepper           |

Place cooked rice in a greased casserole. Brown pork chops or sausage in a frying pan. Add vegetables and cook for 10 minutes. Add seasoning and mushroom soup thinned with milk. Pour all over rice casserole. Bake 30 to 45 minutes in moderate oven.

### Fried Wild Rice

- 2 to 3 c. cooked rice

After rice has been cooked and drained, while still hot, pack it tightly into a well greased bowl. Chill overnight. Cut into thick slices and fry in bacon dripping or butter. Good served with bacon or fresh fried fish.

### Rice Croquettes or Patties

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 c. uncooked wild rice  | 1 small slice garlic |
| 3 c. chicken broth       | 1 tsp. onion juice   |
| 4 egg yolks              | 1 T. chopped parsley |
| Salt and pepper to taste | 1 chicken liver      |

Wash 1 c. uncooked rice. Place in the top of double boiler and add chicken broth. Cook over boiling water until all the chicken broth has been absorbed by the rice and rice is tender. Beat the egg yolks, add the garlic, onion juice, parsley, and seasoning. Stir the mixture into the wild rice, adding finally sieved chicken liver. Cool. Form into croquettes, dip into beaten egg and mold, roll in fine bread crumbs. Fry in deep fat at 390° F. for 2-3 minutes or until brown. Drain on paper towel. Serve hot.

Follow the same procedure for patties. Pan fry in melted butter, turning with a spatula to brown both sides.

### Creamy Rice Pudding

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 2 c. cooked wild rice | ¾ c. sugar    |
|                       | 2 T. butter   |
| 1 c. milk             | ½ tsp. nutmeg |
| ½ c. raisins          | ¼ tsp. salt   |

Place ingredients in the top of a double boiler and cook over boiling water until all is thoroughly cooked and tender. Add more milk if the rice becomes too dry for taste. Serve with whipped cream. Dates and nuts may be added if desired.

### Wild Rice Savory Supper

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 3 or 4 c. cooked wild rice                          | 2 c. canned tomatoes      |
| ½ c. diced cooked celery                            | ¼ c. minced onion         |
| 4 or 5 strips bacon                                 | 1 T. Worcestershire sauce |
| ½ lb. pork sausage or 2 or 3 fish steaks or fillets | Salt and pepper to taste  |
|   | Buttered crumbs           |

Cook diced celery. Mix rice, tomatoes, onion, celery, and seasoning in casserole dish. Arrange strips of bacon, pork sausage or fish fillets on top of rice mixture. Bake in a 350° F. oven until meat or fish is well cooked. If fish is used, top with buttered crumbs and brown in oven to help retain the fish flavor.

### Wild Rice Dessert

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2 c. cooked wild rice | ½ c. chopped dates |
| ½ c. brown sugar      | ½ c. chopped nuts  |

Mix all together, add vanilla or any desired flavoring and serve with whipped cream topped with a sprinkle of chopped nuts.

# October Dinner

Plan a special Thanksgiving dinner around roast wild or tame duck



Roast duck dinner will bring exclamations of delight from family and friends.

IS there anything more tempting for a special dinner than richly browned, generously stuffed roast duck? Wild or tame, it will be just right for Thanksgiving dinner, or to serve at a family gathering.

Tame duck is prepared much as one would prepare a roasting chicken. Wash wild fowl before drawing, using warm water and soap or baking soda to remove the oil from the skin. It is this oil on the skin that imparts the wild flavor to the meat and may be removed almost entirely by soaking overnight in salt and water or for two or three hours in a bath of three teaspoons soda for each quart of water.

Wild duck needs basting as it cooks. Place the stuffed bird on a rack in the roaster; add a cup of water and roast.

The fruit flavors, especially orange, go very well with duck. For flavor and color stuff with a fruited dressing and serve the roast fowl with a salad made of sliced spanish onions and orange chunks. Or, if you prefer, use plain bread dressing, serve a tossed green salad, and, in place of the regular gravy, serve orange sauce.

Wild rice is delicious with duck, or steamed white rice may replace the usual whipped potatoes. Baked squash and buttered broccoli are excellent fall vegetables. For dessert a light ending to such a meal is Pink Snow, with or without pineapple sauce.

## Roast Duck

Prepare duckling by plucking, singeing and drawing. Remove head and feet. One 3½ to 4-lb. bird, ready-to-cook weight, will serve three people. Prepare stuffing using 1 to 1¼ c. stuffing per pound of fowl. Rinse bird inside and out with cold water. Rub neck and body cavity with 1-2 tsp. salt. Push stuffing into breast cavity through neck opening, fold neck skin back over onto back and fasten with toothpicks. Twist tips of wings and fold onto back so wings lie flat. Push stuffing into main cavity. Insert 3 or 4 metal skewers and lace with string.

Place breast side up on rack in open pan. Bake at 325° F. for 2½ hours. Baste with dripping as needed.

## Onion and Orange Salad

Slice two or three large Spanish onions very fine. Cut into quarters. Section 4 oranges. Cut in half and add to onions. Blend carefully. Add ¼ to ½ c. salad dressing and blend. Serve on shred-

ded lettuce beds on individual salad plates.

## Fruited Stuffing

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 c. toasted bread cubes     | ½ c. chopped apple      |
| 2 T. melted butter           | ¼ c. raisins            |
| ¼ c. water                   | ½ c. chopped pecan nuts |
| ½ c. chopped orange sections | 1 tsp. salt             |
| ½ tsp. nutmeg                |                         |

Toss together bread cubes and butter. Combine other ingredients. Cover and let stand 1 hour before using. Stir well and stuff duck just before roasting. Makes 4 c. or sufficient for one 3½ to 4-lb. duck.

## Orange Sauce

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 3 T. fat                     | 1 6-oz. can frozen orange concentrate and |
| 3 T. flour                   | ¾ c. water, or                            |
| 2 T. grated orange peel      | 1½ c. orange juice                        |
| 2 T. currant jelly           | ½ tsp. salt                               |
| ½ tsp. mono-sodium glutamate | Dash pepper                               |

Measure 3 T. fat from roasting pan into saucepan; blend in flour. Add orange peel and jelly, stir over low heat until smooth and blended. Add orange juice or orange concentrate and water. Cook over low heat. Add salt, pepper and mono-sodium glutamate. Cook 10 minutes. Serve with duck. Double for two.

## Pink Snow

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 9-oz. can crushed pineapple (1 c.) | Hot water                                     |
| 16 marshmallows (¼ lb.)              | Syrup drained from pineapple                  |
| 1 pkg. raspberry gelatin             | 1 c. heavy cream or undiluted evaporated milk |

Drain crushed pineapple. Quarter marshmallows. Mix pineapple and marshmallows. Set aside to soften. Measure pineapple syrup. Add cold water to make 1 c. Add 1 c. boiling water to raspberry gelatin. Stir until dissolved. Add cold water and syrup mixture. Chill in refrigerator until begins to thicken. Chill evaporated milk or whipping cream, bowl and beater in refrigerator. When gelatin mixture is as thick as very heavy syrup add pineapple marshmallow mixture. Whip until creamy. Whip cream and fold into gelatin. Chill 3 or 4 hours. Serve alone or with pineapple sauce. Serves 12.

## Pineapple Sauce:

- |                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 T. cornstarch  | 1 9-oz. can crushed pineapple (1 c.) |
| ½ c. sugar       |                                      |
| ¾ c. water       |                                      |
| 1 T. lemon juice |                                      |

Combine cornstarch and sugar. Stir in crushed pineapple and water. Bring to boil stirring constantly. Cook until thick. Add lemon juice and chill. Makes 1¾ c.



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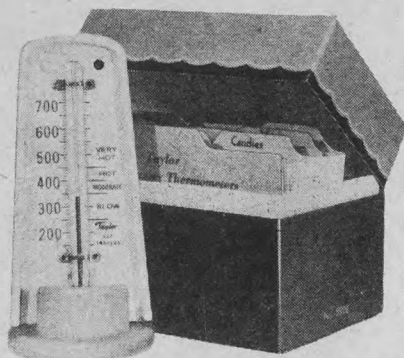


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by LILLIAN VIGRASS



Clearly marked oven thermometer has a well-protected bulb.

OUR mothers and grandmothers seemed able to prepare a delicious meal without the help of many of the gadgets we use today. They could tell if the oven was ready for baking by reaching in to feel the degree of heat on hand and arm, they could tell if it was time to remove the candy from the stove by the subtle change in sound as it boiled. Meat was roasted until it was fork-tender.

Today thermometers help ensure success in roasting, baking, deep-fat frying, candy and jelly-making. They accurately measure the degree of heat in the oven, the temperature reached by top-of-the-stove cooking. They remove the guesswork from cooking and baking, taking the place of years of experience, trial and error, experimenting and just luck.

Stoves with oven thermometers have been manufactured for many years now. They have been improved and extra controls added until today women can be confident of good baking results. Some stoves may have inaccurate or broken measuring devices. An oven thermometer that can be hung from the top rack of the oven or that stands on the lower rack guides you in raising or lowering the oven heat until it is just right for baking.

Although oven thermometers were the first of those commonly used in the kitchen, other heat-measuring devices are becoming well known and are now often used. Thermometers for candy making and deep-fat frying, meat thermometers and, in special cases, dairy thermometers are a part of the equipment in many kitchens.

With meat cuts that vary in size, shape, amount of bone and fat, weight is not always an accurate measure for roasting time. But the meat thermometer records the inner temperature of the meat and indicates accurately when it is cooked to the rare or well-done stage.

To use a meat thermometer insert it well down into the muscle part of the roast. Make sure the tip doesn't touch a bone or layer of fat and that it is turned so that it can be read easily during the cooking period. The scale on the metal plate attached to the thermometer indicates when the meat is cooked to the rare, medium or well-done stage. Cooked to an inside temperature of 130 to 150 degrees it will be rare, 150 to 170 degrees, medium and at 180 degrees it is well done.

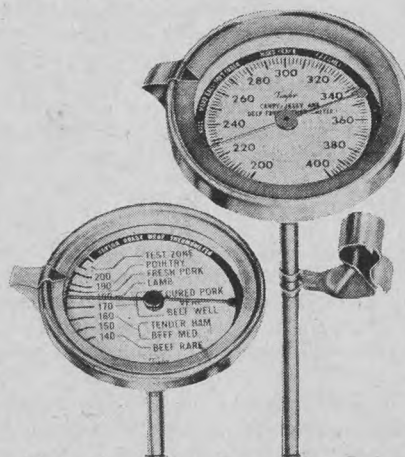
Other cooking thermometers help in turning out fine-textured candies and frostings, well-set jellies and crusty deep-fat fried foods. There are separate deep-frying and candy thermometers as well as a combination type.

Practical tests can judge only approximately the hardening power of candy or frosting. As the syrup thickens or becomes more dense the temperature of the boiling mass increases. This is the most accurate method of measuring the density and hence the degree of hardness of the cooled frosting or candy, the jelling ability of jelly.

Notations on the face of the thermometer show the correct temperature for each type of candy and for jelly. Jelly will set when cooked to 217 to 220 degrees, fudge hardens at 236 degrees, while the firm ball stage, that is reached in the making of caramels, is 246 degrees. The hard ball stage of divinity fudge is at 265 degrees and for butterscotch the cracking stage is at 290 to 300 degrees.

The temperature of the fat in deep-fat frying is most important. If it is too low the food is not crusted over quickly, the fat is absorbed and the result is a heavy, greasy product. At too high a temperature the food browns before it is thoroughly cooked and the fat itself changes, giving off an acrid odor and flavor. Actually the old-time smoke test for fat means that it is too hot to use.

A kettle half-filled with fat is a good rule. More might bubble over or spatter, less would not cover the food. Clip the cooking thermometer to the side of the saucepan or frying kettle,



Dial-type meat thermometer and gauge for candy, jelly-making, etc.

adjusting it so that the bulb of the thermometer does not touch either the side or the bottom of the pot. Hot metal will affect the temperature reading.

Then with the thermometer in place, bring the fat to the proper temperature. Put in the food. If the basket is used keep it lowered when adding foods that have been dipped in a batter, raise the basket to add foods that might break if dropped in.

When the food is put in, the temperature, of course, immediately drops. Increase the heat rapidly to bring it back to the required degree and, for

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accurate temperature recordings, be sure the liquid covers the bulb of the thermometer throughout the cooking period. A moderate amount of food added at one time will prevent excessive cooling of the fat and prevent the fat from bubbling over.

The required temperature for the fat varies with the kind of food to be cooked. Uncooked mixtures need a lower temperature and a longer cooking period than precooked food. Doughnuts and fritters are cooked in two to three minutes at 360 to 370 degrees, small fish are done in two to five minutes at 375 to 390 degrees and croquettes, fish cakes and other precooked foods at 375 to 390 degrees for two to five minutes. French fried potatoes take four to six minutes at 395 degrees.

Cook the food the required length of time, keeping the temperature constant. Turn the food as it browns and when done, raise the basket to allow the food to drain. Then place the food on crumpled absorbent paper on a rack or pan. If it is to be kept hot, place it in a warm oven. Allow other foods to cool at room temperatures before storing.

## The Countrywoman

Continued from page 55

ideas to aid for the job at hand come with sharing experience with others. Our neighborhood has widened, there are new friends among us, some possibly with questions of their own to ask, others with varying experiences or further stories to tell. Through the coming months and years, it will be the task of a larger and, we hope, a better Home Department to reflect the story, thought and experience of our increased circle of farm family readers.

## Copies of Club Creed

REPRINTS of the Club Women's Creed and the accompanying story of its writing by Mary Stewart are now available to readers of The Country Guide. The printing is on the two inner pages of a folder-type card, in a soft off white tone. Each page of the folder is approximately five and one-quarter inches wide by eight and one-half inches deep. The printed text is an exact copy of the feature which appears on page 55—without any decorative drawings.

Such a copy would be suitable for framing, with or without the accompanying story. In Britain, many Women's Institutes clubs have framed the Creed, or Collect written in 1904 by Mary Stewart, and hung it on a wall of their meeting place. In this way they make sure that they have the correct, beautiful wording given it by its author.

These cards would make attractive Christmas remembrances, to send to friends interested in club work or to those associated with you in your own circle. A group, ordering them in a 100-card lot, could sell them at 10 cents each, and so add to some special fund. Priced to cover postage and mailing: single card, 10 cents; 10 cards in one order, 25 cents; 100 cards in one order, \$1.00. Address order and send payment to the Extension Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, Man.

## English Garden

Continued from page 56

ceived early training as a young man in the famous Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh. Though in Canada since 1924, he still speaks with decidedly Scottish accent.

"By that I understand you to refer to the true English cottage garden." Pausing a few minutes the answer came slowly, thoughtfully. "I suppose one might say that it is rather like the English language—evolved through the centuries, with a bit of borrowing from here and there as it has pleased us, and suited our needs. It is marked by variety and a combination of types both in the height and the color of bloom of plants, shrubs and trees. Its features? Usually a flag walk, a distinctive gate, sometimes a pool, borders—but not too wide, hedges, fruit trees, vines and beyond, often a stone wall.

"It is an informal garden—differing from the French or Italian gardens. The Dutch go in for large and impressive splashes of blooms at certain periods. The English garden has a distinctive characteristic—a long, continuous bloom from various flowers and shrubs from early daffodils and cowslips to chrysanthemums at Christmas time. Some flowers are chosen for their height, be it short or long; others for scent or for a particular color. Of course there are the pot herbs, thyme and lavender."

There you have it! A medley of color, scent, fruit and flavor, a joy to the eye, a delight for the artist, a memory to treasure. Submitted to another, an Englishman, who nodded approval of the terse description given, and added to the list of flavored flowers: "And roses, standard, climbing or ramblers, both early and late! Always at the heart of an English garden is the rose."—A.J.R.

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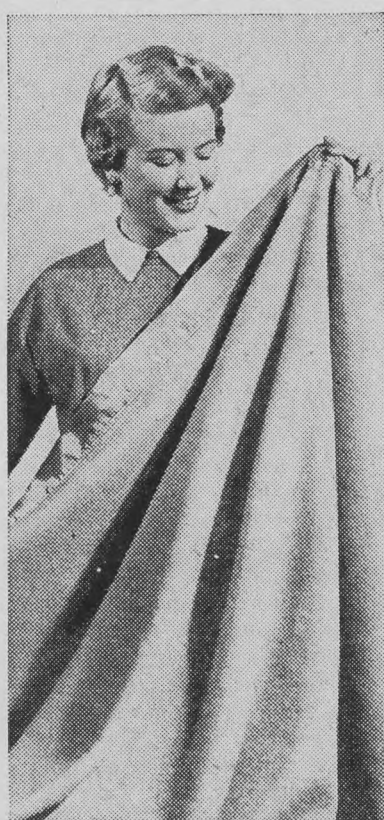
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## Behind the Dust Curtain

*Life took on new content and meaning in those unforgettable years, which changed the lives of many*

by RUTH HUMPHREY

WE usually associate gifts, good wishes, and bouquets with anniversaries. Somehow I feel that poor old Saskatchewan has been getting anything but bouquets on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Magazine articles describing the days of dust, grasshoppers, and Russian thistle vividly picture conditions on the prairie during those unforgettable years. They screen from view many good things that went on while the dust was rolling.

We lived in that section of Saskatchewan which forms a triangle, with the cities of Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon at the angles. There was practically no rain for seven years. Our lack of crops, and consequent lack of income, made the world-wide depression of those years of secondary concern to us.

We tried to shut out the sight of the big grey cloud of dust which enveloped us by drawing the shades, putting on the lights, and going about our daily tasks. We soaked towels in water and laid them along the window-sills in an effort to keep the choking stuff out of the house. We used the vacuum to clear a clean path for the children's feet as they padded upstairs to bed. The bedding smelled of dust even though every inch of it had been gone over with the cleaner. The wind usually subsided at night. Somehow the lovely cool, damp air peculiar to prairie nights seemed to clear the atmosphere. When morning came the wind was blowing again, carrying away the rich topsoil of farmlands.

And the grasshoppers! Oh yes—we tried to fight them, too. Every noon as soon as we finished our dinner, Dad lined us up like soldiers; mother, three sons, a daughter and the "girl," each armed with a towel or apron. We started at the north side of our garden, wildly waving and flapping our towels, and chased clouds of grasshoppers ahead of us, as we advanced slowly between the rows of vegetables which were already half eaten by the miserable pests. The grasshoppers came right back and went on consuming everything that contained the tiniest bit of moisture.

TO the west, where we could see open fields, Russian thistles rolled along the ground like roly-poly demons in an endless game of tag. We hated them, but perhaps we shouldn't have. They covered the dry earth with some green stuff that the cattle could eat and they helped anchor the soil. I used to wonder where they came from; they weren't there before the dry years, and after the rains came again they grew so thick and rank that they choked to death and disappeared.

Those hard years changed the lives of many families, and left memories which will never be forgotten. But life, rich and full, went on behind that dust curtain. Our very hardships drew us closer together, and taught us the meaning of kindness and generosity, of sacrifice and courage. We'll never forget the wonderful boxes, huge

boxes of clothing which came to our church from the Ontario congregations. Tucked in among the dresses, suits, coats, shoes, underwear, and bedding, we found toys for the children, the odd book, and even a lovely little Carlton ware vase. I was so delighted at the sight of it that the other women who were sorting the things insisted that I keep it. It still occupies a place of honor in my living room. I have often wished that I might meet the kind person who thought to put a little bit of beauty in with those things which we so desperately needed.

Those big boxes brought us many things we lacked, but they brought more than that. They brought to us assurance that our little church was not standing alone out there on the wind-swept prairie; it was a part of the great organization which extends from coast to coast.

Many families received boxes of clothing from relatives in the United States. If we got a dress that didn't fit us, but might be just right for a neighbor, we lost no time getting it to her. If there were more dresses than our own little girls needed, we called in their playmates, and sent them home happily clutching a dress, or maybe two.

Boxcars loaded with vegetables, fish, cheese, and apples were left standing on the siding at our railway station. The food was handed out to the scores of men and women who thankfully filled their baskets or bags, and carried them home to mothers who were at their wits' end trying to feed a growing family. We didn't always enjoy the fish, but we ate it, and were thankful for the transportation system which made it possible for us to receive those life-saving gifts from people so far distant.

WE had our dances, card-parties, hockey games and our bonspiels, our agricultural fair and sports day in spite of hard times. We never had imported entertainment—so we kept on making our own. We put on plays and concerts, and took them to our neighboring towns. We worked and played together. Our church groups were responsible for many afternoons and evenings of clever entertainment, from Fun Fairs to quilt displays, and even an old-fashioned singing school. We used our heads as well as our hands, and developed originality and ability.

Our winters were long and cold, but somehow we didn't seem to mind. Our houses were built for such weather, and we kept them warm because we really fired our stoves and furnaces.

There are thousands of former prairie residents now living on the West Coast. In fact it seems that every second person one meets will say, "Oh yes, I came from the prairie, too." Few say they would like to go back there to live, but not one denies the fact that life, though often hard, was rich and rewarding as lived behind that Dust Curtain.

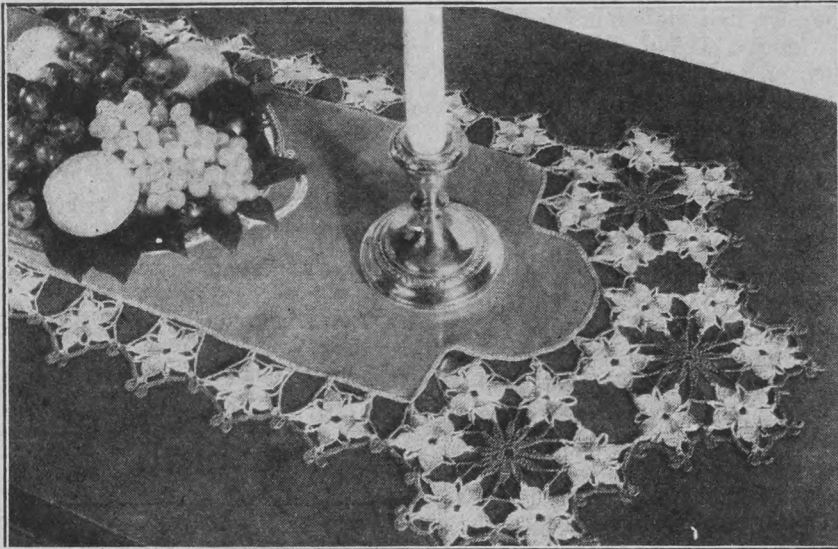
# Variety in Design

Suggestions for the home in crochet and novelty sewing

by ANNA LOREE

## Design No. CD-118

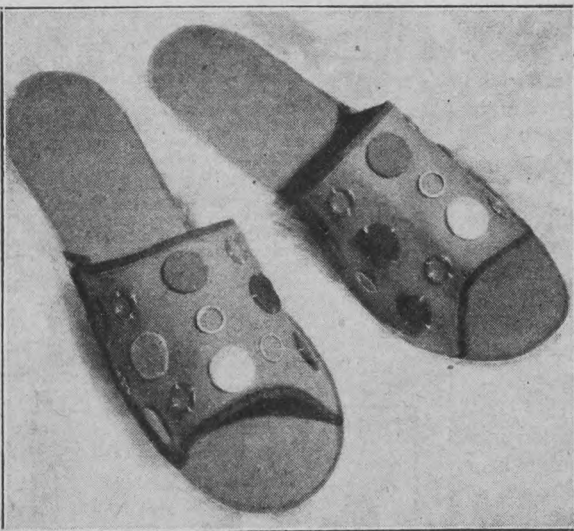
Here is an effective trimming for a square end table or top of the bookcase. Perhaps you will want two for an oblong table or a high dresser that needs a feminine touch. Once again the popular pineapple design is featured, complimented by frothy ruffles. Worked in white or ecru this design is pleasing, but do not overlook the possibility of color, especially for bedroom use. You will need size 30 crochet cotton and a No. 10 steel crochet hook, Design CD-118. Price 10 cents.



## Design No. FD-447

Dainty violets fashion this attractive table center. It consists of three motifs of six flowers each at the ends of the runner, with a single row of flowers along either side. The center of each motif is also in the form of a flower, the outer edge of the runner finished in a picot design. Vari-shaded violets

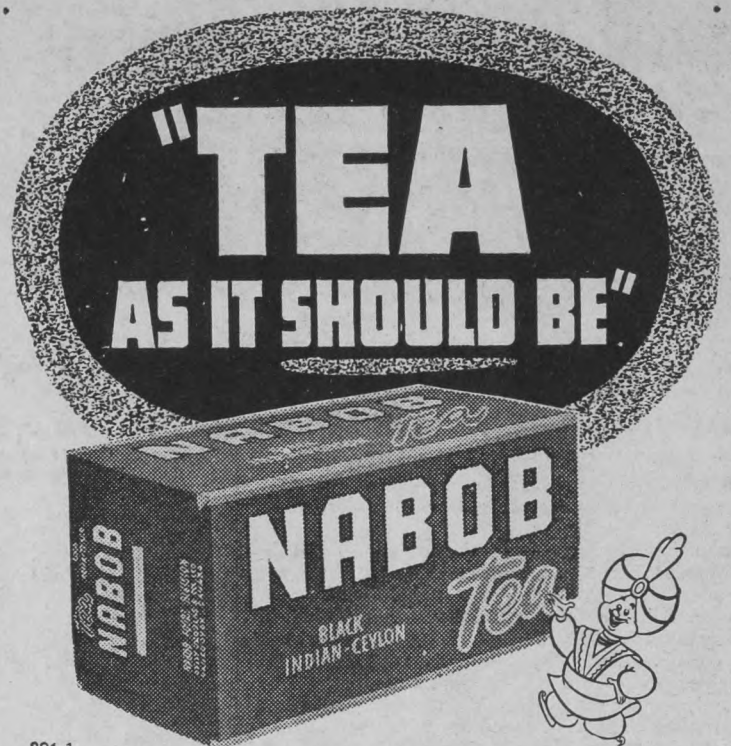
stand out effectively against the darker color of the fill-in motif. Finished size is approximately 13 by 36 inches. Material requirements are size 30 crochet cotton in shades of lavender and green, 1/2 yard lavender organdy 36 inches wide, and No. 10 steel crochet hook. Design FD-447. Price 10 cents.



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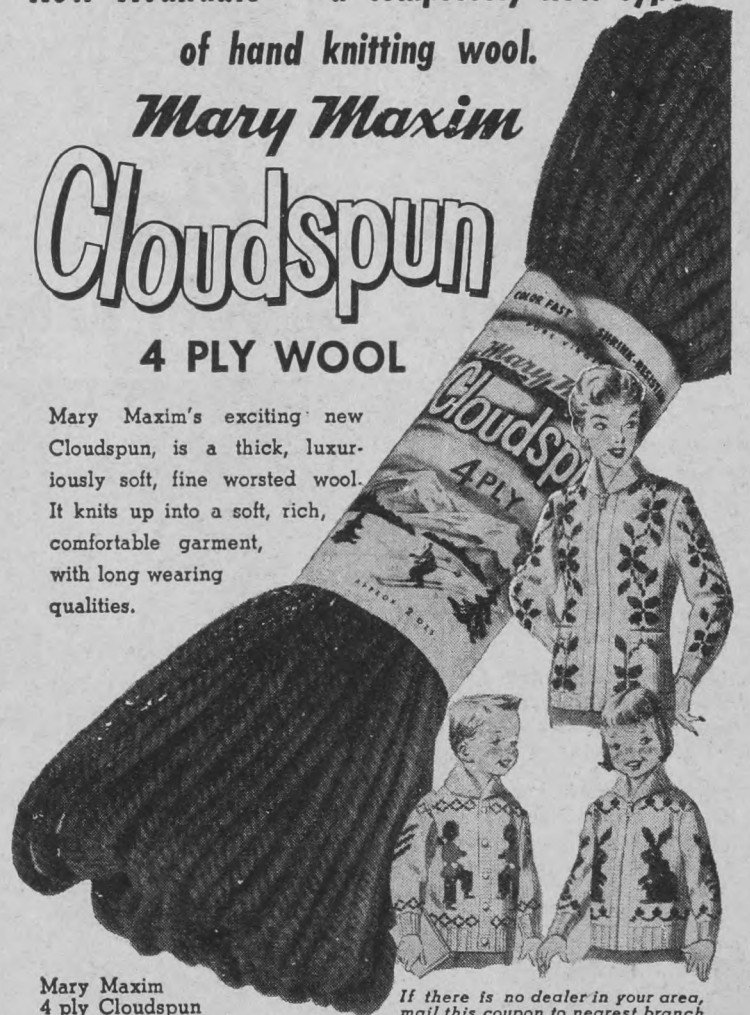
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## HERE ARE THE 18 TOP HITS:

The Yellow Rose Of Texas, Seventeen, I'll Never Stop Loving You, Tina Marie, Longest Walk, Love Is A Many Splendored Thing, Autumn Leaves, Moments To Remember, I Want You To Be My Baby, You Are My Sunshine, Domani, The Bible Tells Me So, The Kentuckian Song, Razzle Dazzle, Wake The Town And Tell The People, Maybelline, Song Of The Dreamer, Gum Drop.

## HERE ARE THE 18 WESTERN HITS:

Cattle Call, If You Were Me, Take Possession, Just Call Me Lonesome, That Do Make It Nice, All Right, I Forgot To Remember To Forget, When I Stop Dreaming, Cryin' Prayin' Waitin' Hop-in', There's Poison In Your Heart, Baby Let's Play House, Blue Darlin', Yonder Comes A Sucker, I'm Hurtin' Inside, Daddy You Know What?, So Lovely Baby, I Thought Of You, Beautiful Lies.

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## Household Hints

by BLANCHE CAMPBELL

When washing a girl's beret, it will dry in shape and look as good as when new if you wash it in lukewarm sudsy water, rinse through several waters of the same temperature, squeeze out as much water as possible, and place over a china plate to dry.

When small children have a record player and their own records but are not old enough to read the titles on the records, you can help them identify their own records by cutting out suitable pictures, and pasting them on the different records.

**Lubricate galosh zippers**—Sometimes when galoshes are stored through the summer months their zippers become rusted and difficult to slide. You can remedy this if you oil the zippers with ordinary household machine oil. Work them up and down several times and you will find that they glide easily. Oil carefully to keep any oil off the fabric, or rubber.

When plastic draperies are not torn but are too faded to use any longer at the windows, I fold them from the bottom up and sew the two sides together on the sewing machine. This makes a big moth-proof bag in which to store blankets. Finish by putting in a zipper and it will close tightly, and remain so until unzipped.

Make your small child a pair of snow mittens from plastic. They will keep his hands warm, dry, and comfortable. They can be fashioned out of plastic material on hand, such as the good portion from a discarded curtain or table covering. Cut these a little larger than their regular woollen mittens, so that they may be slipped on over them while they play in the snow.

For your own safety's sake, no matter what you are carrying, whether a big or little load, always be sure when once you have picked it up, that you can see over it. Many a serious accident has been caused, because the person carrying the load could not see around it and accidentally ran into something, or stepped into a hole, or missed stair steps.

Have a care as to how you lift anything that is heavy, for wrong lifting can cause permanent injury. Take a tip from professional movers who have learned to distribute weight evenly. So when there is a heavy load to be lifted, bend the knees and not the back. Stand close to the load where you can get a firm grip. Then lift it, straightening the knees as you raise up, in this way keeping the load close to the body, using both hands. Always use both hands even for small loads, and you will find there will be far fewer accidents and injury.

Short-stemmed flowers slipped into soda straws are easy to arrange in a bouquet of long-stemmed flowers so that they may be placed in a tall vase.

Egg whites beat up faster and to greater volume when they are at room temperature than when very cold.

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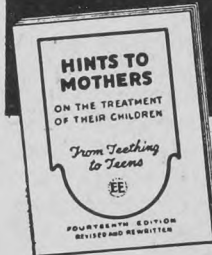
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## A Reader's Word

A READER-FRIEND from Edmonton, Alberta, Mrs. Mason, writes concerning the September issue.

"Please congratulate all the staff of The Country Guide for the excellent job they did on the last issue. It was one of the best Jubilee special issues I've seen of any magazine or daily paper so far. Just about sent in another subscription for four more years, but see I'm paid up until 1958, so think I'll wait a while.

"Enjoyed the August issue and your articles re: Laws of Interest to Women. I tried to get one of the Manitoba booklets, but they do not send them outside the province. Wish that you'd do a bit of survey of Alberta laws and women. Nowadays, when so many married women are buying furniture, cars and even going into business, it would be nice to know what is legally theirs. In case they die, without making a will—to whom does it all go?

"Please see what you can do!"

That's rather a large order and might precipitate an avalanche of similar requests from eight other provinces. Probably it would be best to have women's groups wait upon the provincial Attorney-General and induce him to duplicate Manitoba's booklet on Laws of Interest to Women—with particular reference to your province.—Editor.

## Mortar and Pestle

Do you own an old-fashioned wooden or marble mortar? If so, put it to use in your kitchen. You can crush corn flakes, graham crackers, or dry bread crumbs in no time to a fineness that is perfect for making crumb crusts for pies, for breading meats and fish for frying, and topping casserole dishes for a nice oven browning. You can also use it to pound out lumps in brown or icing sugar; to crush broken nut meats for cakes or puddings, and to soften and blend cheese for sandwich spreads. A deep bowl or a quart-sized measuring glass with a wooden pestle-shaped mallet makes an excellent substitute for the old-fashioned mortar and pestle, and you will be surprised how the use of one of these will hasten many a tedious kitchen task.—Effie Butler.

## When the Groceries Come

by MARY ANNE DELL

THERE'S such excitement in our house, when the groceries come!

We live far from any shopping center. This means buying in large quantities from a mail order grocer in the city, which we do about three times a year.

It is usually about supper time, when Dad arrives with his load of long-looked-for freight. The children couldn't be more excited if it were Santa himself with his reindeer and sleigh. We have a standing rule about

the procedure on such an occasion, else bedlam would prevail. The stuff is unloaded and carried to the basement, as Mother counts the various parcels.

Then we proceed to have supper in an orderly fashion. After the dishes are done and the chores attended to, we all hasten to the basement. Various members bring along lamps, pencils, hammer, knife or other equipment necessary for the unpacking and checking. As Dad opens each box he calls off its contents as he sets them out and Mother checks them off on the original order. The children hop up and down with anticipation.

After each box has been checked and emptied, the children help by placing the articles onto their designated places on the basement shelves. There's many an "Oh!" or "Ah!" as they put away something, which they particularly like or dislike. At last the job is finished, boxes, wrappings, twine and the general clutter is cleared away.

Then comes the moment we look forward to most of all. Each is allowed his or her choice of an article from the entire order. Then be it a banana, strawberry jam or pickled herrings, each proceeds with his selection upstairs, to the kitchen. Cocoa or coffee

is made to go with this special late supper.

No king in his palace ever enjoyed a banquet more than we in our northern cabin enjoy this shared feast of family "first choices."

If you are always having to dust or wipe up just inside your front, side, and back doors, it is probably because you have no door mats outside. These mats—whether the cocoa, rubber or link mats—save the housewife much trouble and go far toward keeping the house free of dust marks, particularly if you have bare floors just inside the doors.—L.P.B.

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No. 4897—Foremost in this season's fashion news, the tunic dress has unmounted sleeves in short or three-quarter length and a tucked V-neckline. It is a two-piece style with straight, slim skirt and flared tunic top. No trim is needed, but accessories may be worn on the cummerbund belt or at the neckline. Pattern also includes a full-skirted, wrap-around dress. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $4\frac{1}{2}$  yards 39-inch or  $3\frac{3}{4}$  yards 44-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1279—The popular dropped waistline and softly pleated skirt highlight this dress-up style. Use detachable lace collar and cuffs on wool, gleaming white satin to contrast dull-finished crepe. Also included, a more tailored, long-sleeved version with cross-over tab beneath collar. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40 and 42. Size 18 requires  $5\frac{3}{8}$  yards 35-inch or  $5\frac{3}{4}$  yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.



1263



1264



1263



1264



4897



1279



No. 1263—This two-piece dress consists of easy-fitting overblouse and slim skirt. Make it with cuffed three-quarter sleeves and sparkling button trim for party wear. Casual style included features pleated skirt, with short-sleeved overblouse in contrasting color. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $4\frac{1}{2}$  yards 35-inch or  $2\frac{1}{4}$  yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1264—Ever popular basic dress with detachable peplum, may be worn many ways; with jewellery, detachable collar and cuffs, contrasting fabric trim at neckline. Note set-in three-quarter sleeves, and pencil slim skirt. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $4\frac{3}{4}$  yards 35-inch or  $3\frac{3}{4}$  yards 45-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1274—In lightweight tweed this princess line dress would be suitable for almost any occasion. You will like its slimming lines, full-length sleeves, and perky bow at the neck. Also included, short-sleeved version with small pointed collar. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires  $5\frac{1}{8}$  yards 35-inch or  $3\frac{3}{4}$  yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1269—This is a becoming easy-to-sew style with softly gathered skirt. Wide lace collar and matching cuffs give it a party air, a soft tie at the neck completes its trim. Also suggested, long-sleeved style with small collar and cuffs. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires 5 yards 35-inch or  $4\frac{3}{4}$  yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.



1274



1269



1274



1269

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## Our Life With the Bees

by JANE HAVENS

LIFE on our prairie farm suddenly took on added attraction. Two hives of bees were installed in the windbreak. They had travelled from California in boxes, each complete with two pounds of bees with their feed, and a smaller box containing the queen, her half dozen attendants and the royal jelly with which they fed her. On sunny days I enjoyed lying on the grass watching the workers guarding their home from robber bees, cleaning the hives and bringing home nectar. The young worker bees stay home and do the housework, while the older bees do the field work.

One day I noticed an unusual amount of activity in front of one of the hives. Investigation showed a queer-looking mound fastened to the grass in front of the hive entrance. I went to the house for a pair of scissors and carefully clipped away the grass. Then I turned the mound over. It was a dead toad. We had probably stepped on it while working at the hive, and the bees, unable to remove it, had sealed it completely over with wax.

One morning I found my little ten-year-old friend from our neighbor's farm lying on the ground peering into the hive entrance. Before I could warn him he suddenly scrambled to his feet, threw his cap on the ground and dashed past me, yelling, "Gee whiz, they bit!"

On wet days the bees stay in the hive and are apt to be vicious, if disturbed. Not knowing this, and being new to the ways of bees, I offered to show our two hives to our bank manager and his wife. Down we went to the windbreak where they were sheltered. It had been raining and a raw wind was blowing. With the courage of the ignorant I lifted the lid from the hive, and the three of us stood looking in, to get a first-hand view. Our banker friend was tall and rather short-sighted, and as he stood bending over and peering into the hive I suddenly realized that all was



"Dad, I'd like to do a little night work.  
Can I have the keys to the car?"

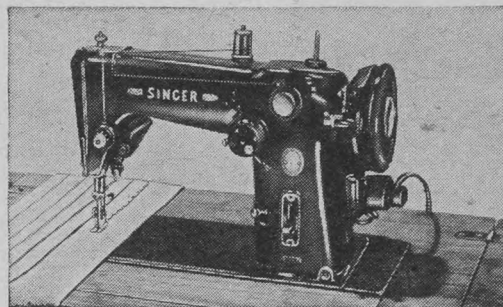
not as it should be. With an angry roar, hundreds of bees hurled themselves from their desecrated home. The next minute the lid was on the ground and I was racing toward the house, accompanied by two wildly swatting friends. Every few steps one of us would let out a yell, and the banker would stop and solemnly swat us on the head with more force than precision. I know of few things more terrifying than having an angry bee buzzing in your hair. The poor little thing is probably just as frightened as you are, and the odds are greatly against it, for if it stings you it dies.



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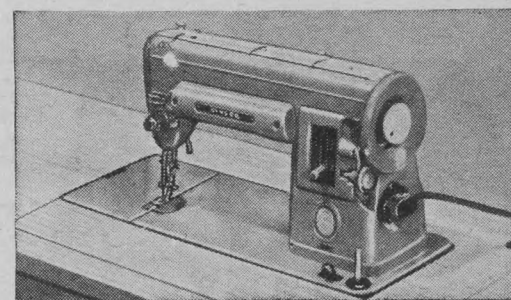


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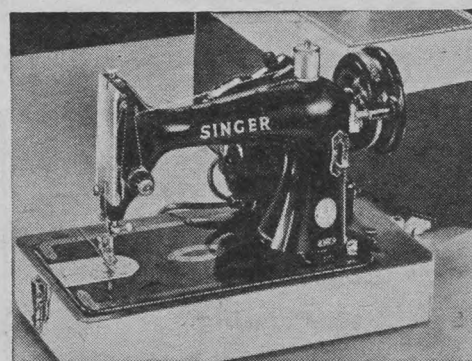


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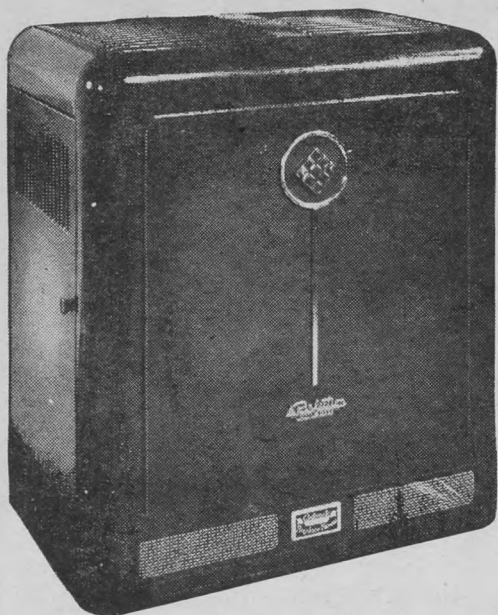
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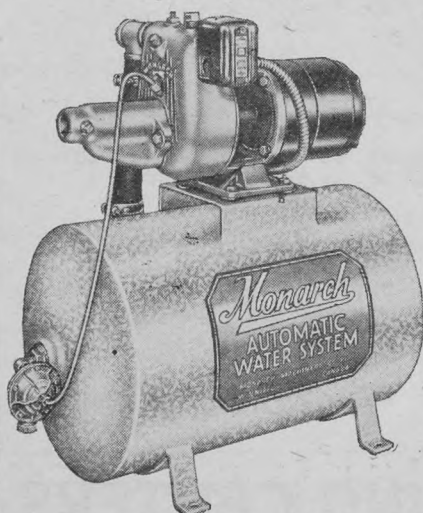
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It seems an unfair trick of nature that a creature so small and so wonderful should have to die in attempting to defend its home.

**B**EES have enemies. The kingbird takes its toll of them, but it catches mostly drones. The beekeeper watches for anthills and destroys them. I have seen two large ants, one on each side of a helpless bee, dragging it by the wings. Skunks are particularly fond of the little creatures. A skunk will stand in front of a hive and scratch on the wood. When the bees emerge to see what is the matter they are eaten by the intruder. A friend of ours found skunk tracks around his apiary, and after using his imagination, came up with a unique method of extermination. He covered the ground in front of a hive with sticky fly-paper and in the morning he had Mr. Skunk in a neatly rolled-up package.

As the years went by our two hives increased to 200. I no longer entertained visitors by opening the hives, but I still had my bad moments. One hot June day I was lying down suffering from a headache. I heard the screen door slam, and our year-old collie pup leaped onto the bed and snuggled against me, whining pathetically. "What's wrong, Rip?" I asked. Then the noise I remembered only too well filled the room, and sent me flying off the bed. Bees—his coat was full of them. He had gone with the master while he was examining the hives, and may have investigated the openings.

Our young daughter helped comb out the bees, sticking gamely to the task, with Rip licking her hands in gratitude. That night at the supper table she was the center of attraction, sporting a cauliflower ear and an eye swollen completely shut.

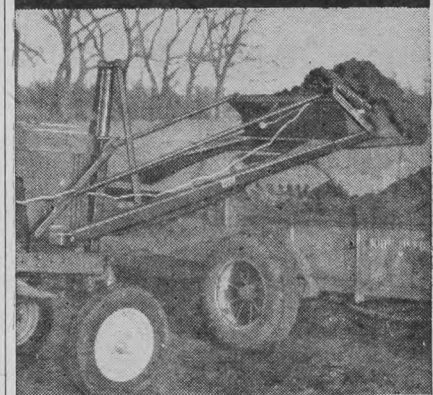
We enjoy our life with the bees. ✓

## New U.G.G Board Members

**T**HE Board of Directors of the United Grain Growers elected two new members last month. They were A. M. Runciman of Abernethy, Saskatchewan, and Lester S. Snyder of the Wintering Hills area, Alberta, elected to fill vacancies created by the appointment of Stanley S. Lopton of Bredenbury, Saskatchewan, to the Board of Grain Commissioners, and the recent death of J. J. MacLellan of Purple Springs, Alberta. The new directors will serve until November, when they will be eligible for re-election at the Company's annual meeting.

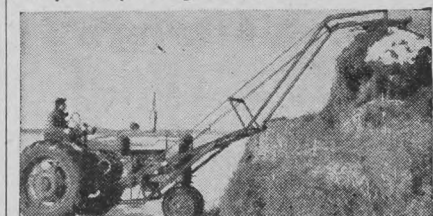
Mr. Runciman, who came to Canada from Scotland in 1928, has been secretary of the local board of the United Grain Growers at Abernethy. During World War II he saw service overseas with the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps as a regimental sergeant-major. The other newly elected member, Mr. Snyder, is a graduate of the agricultural school at Claresholm, Alberta, and now operates three farms in partnership with his brother, Ben. In addition to this, he is secretary-treasurer of the power company, and president of the telephone company in his district. The Snyder farms total about 5,000 acres in the Wintering Hills area. ✓

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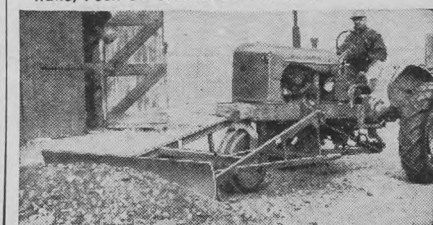


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# Trees In Autumn

*October, with lavish hand, now spills  
Her wine of flame and gold upon the hills ...*

by ROYCE MacGILLIVRAY

IN October the trees in eastern Canada have taken on their familiar autumn colors, and in every direction the leaves have become red and orange and yellow, with hardly a shade of green to be seen.

In a few weeks the tree branches will be bare, and the leaves will have coated the ground, perhaps a foot deep in the forests. There they will decay to form the rich black muck that was so frequent at the time of the original clearing of the land, and has been so often burned away. But for the time being, the trees are colorful.

To the children who play in the leaves and the less happy people who rake them in the autumn, there comes a sense of appreciation for this seasonal and often brief change. It is the last dash of color in the year.

Every tree has its own distinctions in colors. The maples, in their red and yellow leaves are almost too familiar to need mention. The elm displays its fall garb in bright yellow. The white oak is decked out in russet-orange and brown; and the butternut, who loses his leaves early in the fall, is tinted in a drab yellow-brown.

I know of two or three trees that the people of the nearby farms, proclaim to be the first to change color in the fall. These trees, tall maples mostly, stand in the open and seem to color earlier; they become red or orange-yellow when the foliage of the surrounding trees is still green. A few this year were reddish in the second week of August.

FROST is not really necessary for a change in the leaves. A heavy frost will burn them brown. The cooler nights and shorter days of the late summers are enough to bring about the usual changes, and set in motion the subtle chemical processes that produce the red and yellow tints.

Chlorophyll, that colors the leaves green, has acted throughout the summer to produce sugar and starches from the sunlight, carbon dioxide and water which the tree receives. Now, as the season ends, a thin, slippery

Later, the slippery layer turns gelatinous, and being unable to hold the leaf, allows it to drop off, or be torn off by the wind. The part of the slippery layer nearest the tree turns to cork and seals the spot where the leaf was torn

away, thus preventing infection from entering the tree.

As to the reasons for the dropping of the leaves, scientists do not seem to be wholly certain. To the poet, the leaves are painted for man's enjoyment, but to the legendary farmer who said that if the rose had been made for man's enjoyment it would not have had thorns, the matter must have seemed somewhat different. This at least seems clear: if the maple or oak were to keep its leaves, the branches would hardly survive the weight of the thick, wet snow that

would cling to them. The evergreens, with their sloping branches and slender needles, have largely eliminated this problem.

When we were children we all heard a story about the colored leaves. Jack Frost, we were told, had gone about and painted them with brush in the night. Later, he would come and paint them in ice on our window panes.

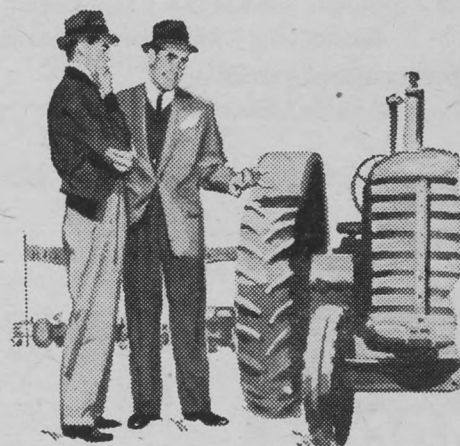
It was a satisfying answer. Later, we became more skeptical. Now, in the fall, when the fragrant smoke of burning leaves fills the air, it almost seems reasonable again. v

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ML-12-55

Marriage is like any other job;  
it's swell if you like the boss.—  
Anonymous.

layer of cells grows across the end of the leaf stem, where it joins the branch of the tree; and this keeps the sugar that the chlorophyll has produced from leaving the leaf. No more chlorophyll-forming materials can enter the leaf, and the chlorophyll remaining dies slowly in the sunlight, leaving behind carotin, an orange substance, and xanthophyll, which is yellow. Throughout the summer, these were obscured by the green, but now, with the green gone, they can appear in their true colors. Leaf materials, decaying, produce brilliant red anthocyanin; and the bright colors, so brought about, tint the forests.

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## Wheat Protein Map 1955

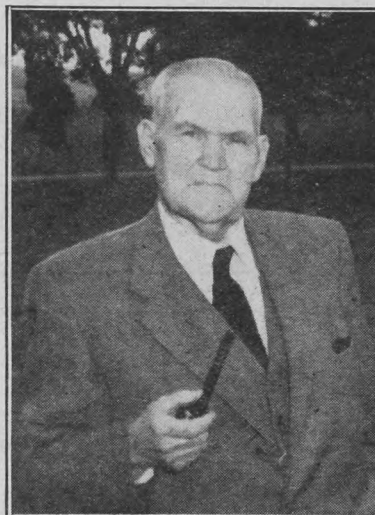


AN average protein content of 13.2 per cent for the 1955 wheat crop is shown in the preliminary protein map published by the Board of Grain Commissioners' Laboratory. This is 0.6 per cent higher than last year's average of 12.6 per cent, and reflects the improved crop-growing conditions this year.

Three large, above-average protein (13.0-14.9 per cent) areas occur in western Canada. Manitoba is mostly in an above-average area, and has a

few high-protein sectors; Saskatchewan has two large above-average areas in the northern and southern districts, and a below-average band that starts in the northeast corner of the province, sweeps down to the south and then across to the extreme southwestern part; and Alberta's above-average protein regions are in crop districts 5, 7, and 10, with a low-protein area extending from north to south in all westerly crop districts of the province.

## J. J. MacLellan Dies



JOHN J. MACLELLAN, 76, a fifth generation Canadian born in Pictou, N.S., Minister of Public Works in the UFA Government of Alberta, and for 35 years a member of the board of directors of the United Grain Growers Limited, died in hospital, at Lethbridge, September 17.

Of Highland Scots descent, his antecedents migrated first to Virginia, before settling permanently in Nova Scotia. A blacksmith by trade, Mr. MacLellan first came west to Gladstone, Manitoba, on a harvesters' excursion, in 1905. Later he moved to Taber, in southern Alberta, where he opened a blacksmith shop. In 1908 he filed on a homestead near Purple Springs, where he farmed until he retired to Lethbridge a few years ago.

In 1915, Mr. MacLellan was elected a director of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company, and took an active part in the proceedings which resulted, in 1917, in the amalgamation of his

company with the Grain Growers' Grain Company, to form United Grain Growers Limited. He became a director of the new company and continued as such until very shortly before his death. For some years he had been the oldest member of the Board, in age as well as years of service.

He became Reeve of Eureka Municipality in 1917; was elected a UFA member of the Alberta Legislature in 1932; and was made Minister of Public Works in 1934. He retired from active politics in 1935, when he suffered defeat along with the government of which he was a member. In 1929 he served the United Grain Growers as Second Vice-President, and in 1930 as First Vice-President.

A strong, blocky figure, Mr. MacLellan was a man of keen intellect, strong convictions firmly held, and an unusual ability to express himself in public, when the spirit moved him. He was well known among those who attended farm meetings in Alberta; and in 1950 attended the meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, at Oslo, Norway, as a delegate from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

He was keenly interested in the development of irrigation in southern Alberta; his opinions were highly regarded by his fellow board members; and he was a staunch friend of the farmer, even if he did not always follow the popular clamor. Those who have been fortunate enough to talk with him when he was in a reminiscent mood will miss his sharp recollections of persons and circumstances, as well as the pungency of his wit and criticism.

# Pigwams Are Cheap and Simple

by W. GRIFFITH JONES

SEVERAL years ago, when my brother and I were at our wit's end to house our increased pig population, we devised a pole shelter and called it a "pigwam."

With an abundance of poplars, but shortage of funds, it was only natural that the pigwam should evolve. It was not noted for longevity, but it proved practical on account of its low cost, warmth, and reasonable dryness, if built on a small knoll. We had several pigwams, and found the medium-sized ones the most suitable, preferably one for each family.

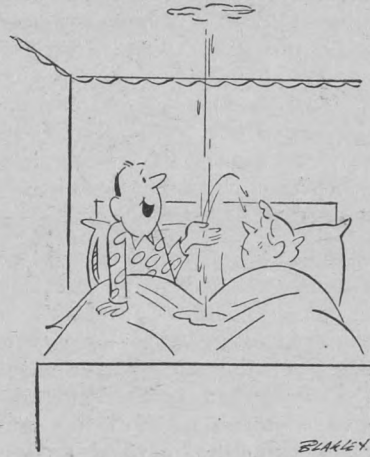
A quantity of wire (about No. 12), some staples, many rails, and straw were all that we needed. First, we selected three or four rails, each about 16 feet long, and fastened them loosely together about two feet from what was to be the upper end. Then we stood the rails up with the butts spread out at equal distances in a circle about 16 feet in diameter.

We set rails against the first rails, so that they were about a yard apart at the base, and then ran a couple of

*They cost little and are warm and practical where straw is abundant*

wraps of wire around the framework, about eight feet from the top. Shorter rails were used to support the tops, and by then there was at least one rail every foot.

We found it best to use staples to keep them in position, and a round or two of wire was securely stapled to each leaning rail at about eight inches from the ground. The pole work was completed with a rail fence, four feet



"Oh good, rain!"

high, and with two feet of clearance all around the pigwam.

The aperture at the top provided excellent ventilation; and, if the thatching was done carefully, the shelter was comparatively dry. Lots of straw was tramped and prodded in securely to set up the pigwam in style.

One disadvantage was the tremendous amount of straw needed to keep pigwams in shape. I expect combine straw would be better for thatching. We had nothing but separator straw in those days. V

## Loafing Barn And Grass Silage

GEOFF. BOCOCK discovered 20 years ago that he couldn't make a living growing grain only, on his farm at Volmer, north of Edmonton. Poor crops and disastrous prices nearly ruined him. Then he looked around to see one or two neighbors doing well with grass, hay and dairy cows. The black soil, watered with 18 to 20 inches of rain a year, was far different from that in the prairie wheat belt. He decided that it must be forage country.

Of course he built a stanchion stable at first. Cattlemen then agreed that dairy cows were tender creatures. But by 1947, with the well-established herd expanding fast and paying well, near the mushrooming market of

Edmonton, he wanted to reduce his costs. Dairy drudgery was restricting his enjoyment of life.

He remodelled his barn into one of Alberta's first loafing barns. It proved adaptable to the district. Now there are said to be a hundred in the province; and in cold or storm, dairy cows are showing they can take it. The door is hardly ever closed in the Bocock barn. Though the herd gets its hay from a self-feeder indoors, the cattle must go out for silage, which is stored in trench silos and fed in bunks. They seldom miss it. The herd has grown to about 50 graded-up and typy Holsteins, and the 400 acres of arable land are given over to grass, hay and coarse grains, all for the herd. Their production records, under Dairy Herd Improvement Association testing, are among the best in the province.

Grass silage has enabled him to boost production to so high a level, because he can take two cuts of alfalfa each season from much of the hay land. He even beats hail hazard, a constant worry to the grain man. If a field is beaten down by a storm, he can salvage at least some of it for ensilage, with the forage harvester.

His loafing barn means now that he can get to church every Sunday, even in winter. He can find time for the occasional trip away from home; and, in fact, dairying has become a challenging and enjoyable business. — D.R.B. V



## Farming Calls for Wise Decisions

Every year, you've got to make decisions . . . some of them difficult. And making the right decision may mean the difference between a good year or a bad. That's why it's a good idea to talk things over occasionally with someone who understands your problems, and who can offer sound, impartial advice on matters of farm finance.

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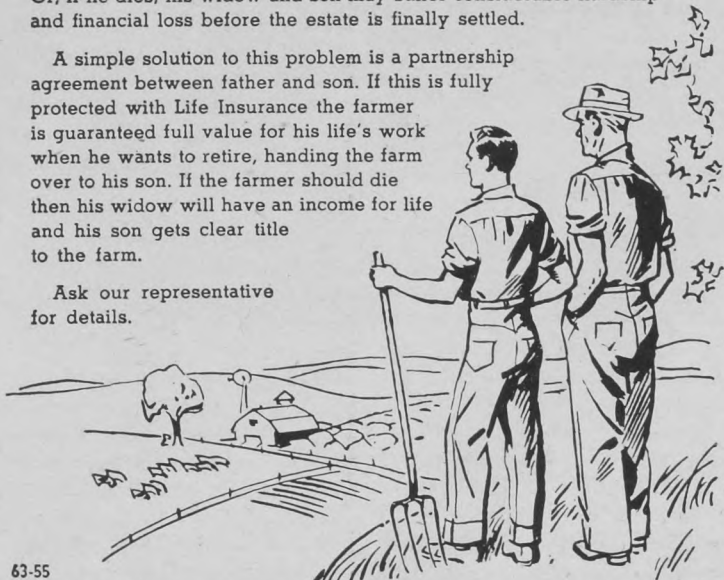
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## IFAP Annual Meeting

REPRESENTING some 25 million farm families all over the world, 200 delegates and observers attended the annual meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) in Rome, September 9. The conference was held in FAO conference headquarters, and guest speakers included U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, and Italian Minister of Agriculture, Emilio Colombo. A non-governmental farm organization, IFAP is the farmer's international spokesman.

The main discussions centered around the problem of food distribution; how to dispose of huge surpluses without upsetting world markets. "Back in 1946, when I attended IFAP's first meeting," stated Benson, "it seemed there could never be enough food to meet the minimum requirements of a hungry world—now it's a problem of too much."

The general world economic climate is getting better, it was reported, but the economic health of the farmer is getting worse—the latter isn't getting his share of the current prosperity. This is mostly true in the better developed countries where heavy surpluses are piling up for which there is no market in sight. In the past ten years, FAO has sent 1,000 technical assistance experts into the field to assist agricultural production in troubled areas. There has been fine co-operation among nations in this work, but very little when it comes to the distribution of crop surpluses at home. Governments have been reluctant to take action on international trade agreements, each hoping to be able to dispose of bothersome surplus products without having to take goods from the purchasing country in return.

In a policy statement given at the end of the conference, IFAP delegates declared that a progressive reduction in world trade barriers was the basic solution to the present unbalanced situation in the world farm economy. The tendency of governments to delve more and more into foreign trade in farm products so as to get a larger share of a total market that is expanding slowly, if at all, will only lead to grave international friction. Nor is there much chance at present that the surplus production of farmers can be sold in the underdeveloped areas of the world because individuals in these countries haven't the money to buy these products, and their governments prefer to spend what money they have for machinery, implements, and other capital goods. Some outlets may be found in the Soviet sphere, but political uncertainties, and the scarcity of Soviet supplies for exchange, make it unwise for farmers to count too heavily on this method of disposing of their surpluses.

Newly elected president of the international farm body was John Andrew, president of the Federated Farmers of New Zealand; the three vice-presidents elected were Nils Westermarck, Finland; Andreas Hermes, Germany; and James Patton of the United States. The next IFAP conference will be held in the United States in the spring of 1957.

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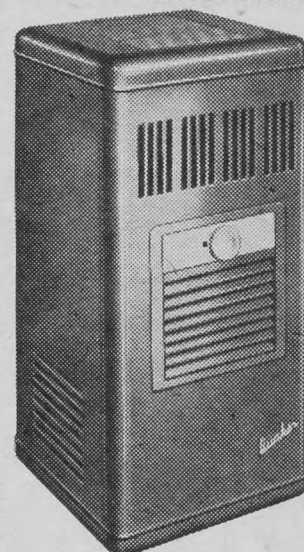
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# The Country Boy and Girl



OCTOBER brings Hallowe'en fun, games and parties. Most of all we love the mystery of Hallowe'en when we pretend that witches ride across the sky on broomsticks and owls and black cats fly wildly about at night and ghosts pop up quite suddenly from just any spot. Yes, it's a time of mystery! Here is a mystery for you to solve.

Our scarecrow standing in the cornfield is a very special one. Perhaps you can guess who he is if we tell you some things about him. This scarecrow is very sad because he has no brains. A little girl, named Dorothy, lifted him down from the pole which was stuck up his back. She told him that he

might travel along with her to the Emerald City where a powerful wizard might be able to give him some brains. As they went along they found a tin woodman whose joints were so rusted that he could not move. Dorothy and the scarecrow saved his life by oiling his joints. The tin woodman joined their party for he hoped that the powerful magician would give him a heart. The last one to join their party was a huge lion who admitted he was a coward and he hoped the wizard would help him too, by giving him some courage. The scarecrow, the tin woodman, the cowardly lion and Dorothy have many adventures on their journey. Have you guessed who our scarecrow is?

Yes, it's the scarecrow from *The Wizard of Oz*. You will enjoy reading this story many times.

*Anne Sankey*

## Black Night

by Mary Grannan

BLACK NIGHT was a black kitten. He had been acting very strangely for the past week, and Annie was worried. Annie had always played ball on the front stairs with Black Night, after supper. But Black Night had been disappearing after supper for the past few days, and Annie could not find him. He was always sleeping in his basket like an angel kitten in the morning. When Annie asked him where he had been, he would purr softly as if to tell her that it was none of her affairs.

"But it is my affair," persisted Annie, on the day of Hallowe'en. "You're my kitten, and I look after you. I feed you, and I put pretty ribbons on your neck. I never go out any place without telling my mother where I'm going. Black Night, I think you should do the same."

Black Night seemed disgruntled at the idea, and left his basket and went under Annie's bed to finish his nap. Annie went to her mother.

"I don't know what to do with him, Mum," the little girl said. "Now he's sulking under my bed, and all because I told him that he should tell me where he's going, after supper."

"Cats are very mysterious animals," said Mrs. Redfern. "They like to go their own way, without interference."

"But Black Night's just a baby cat, and he's mine. I want to play ball with him on the stairs."

Mrs. Redfern always tried to help Annie with her problems, so she thought over the matter. "We'll keep Black Night in the house tonight," she said. "We'll block every means of escape. We'll close all the windows, and the entrance to the cellar. Then we'll watch Black Night, and see how he reacts to being a prisoner in his own nice home."

Annie laughed, and looked forward to the evening. The family was still at the supper table, when they heard Black Night meowing in the kitchen. Annie looked at her mother. Mrs. Redfern shook her head. Annie

waited. The meowing was followed by impatient scratching. Black Night was trying to open the door. When he found this impossible, he came into the dining room. He went to his little mistress and looked up at her with pleading green eyes.

"Pay no attention to him, Annie," whispered Mr. Redfern, "let's wait and see what happens."

Black Night purred and rubbed his soft black fur against Annie's legs, as cats do, when they want something.

After the meal was over, Annie took her big red ball to the staircase. "Come on, Black Night," she called. "We're going to play ball."

But Black Night had no such intention. He ran first to the cellar, and finding no way to the outdoors, raced to the attic. There he found all the windows closed. He couldn't understand. He went back to the hall where Annie was, and scratched at the door.

"You're not going out tonight, Black Night," said Annie. "It's Hallowe'en and Mum and Daddy and I are going to have a party. We've got a jack-o'-lantern in the window, and we've got candy kisses for the children who come knocking at the door."

Black Night meowed hopefully. But Annie's father knew what Master Kitten had in mind, and he picked up the now angry little kitten, and set him in his downy basket.

After the crowd of costumed children with their sacks of apples, nuts and candy, thinned out, Annie went to bed. Instead of dozing in his basket, Black Night sat on the windowsill, staring out into the starry sky. Annie's mother had even remembered to pull the window down from the top, and left such a narrow opening that it was impossible for the kitten to squeeze through.

"I'm sorry, Black Night," Annie said, as she pulled the bed covers over her. "But you've been acting very strangely, and you wouldn't tell me why. Goodnight, Black Night."

The kitten didn't answer. Annie closed her eyes and fell asleep. She awakened suddenly when the clock in

the hall was striking the midnight hour. She sat up, and looked toward the window. There, riding a broom, was a Hallowe'en witch looking all the world like the Hallowe'en cards that Annie had seen in the stores.

Throwing on her housecoat, Annie went toward the black-robed old lady. "What do you want?" Annie asked.

The witch half sang her answer, "This is the night that witches ride, each with a black cat by her side. Together we ride off through the sky, to Hallowe'en Land. All week we've been making preparation, the sky is filled with illumination. The party is just about to begin, and you have locked my black cat in."

Annie laughed. "He isn't your black cat, Mrs. Witch. He's my black cat. Now I know why he wouldn't play ball with me all week. He's been helping the witches and other black cats get ready for a big Hallowe'en party, up there behind the moon."

The witch nodded from her fluttering broom.

Annie had the upper hand, and she knew it. "I'll open the window for Black Night, if you'll take me to the Hallowe'en party in the sky," she said.

"All right!" said the witch, "I can't go myself, unless I have a black cat

at my side. You are a pesky child. Open the window and climb aboard."

Annie opened the window. Black Night jumped to the shoulder of the old witch. Annie climbed on the broom behind her, and was whisked off like a rocket into the sky. She couldn't believe her blue eyes when she arrived. Black cats were plucking star-shaped banjos, black cats were dancing to the music, jack-o'-lanterns with sturdy golden legs were dancing too. Friendly witches, who had set their brooms in the broom closet, served apples, nuts and candy to everyone. Black Night was very proud of his little mistress, who made friends with everyone.

A cock crew down on the earth. "The party's over," said Black Night's witch. "Annie, I'll take you home."

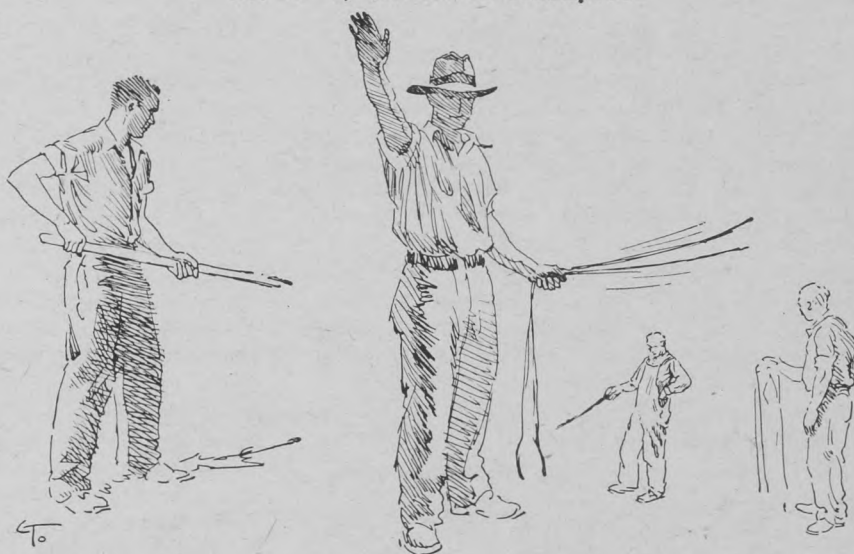
She did. The next morning when Annie opened her eyes, she looked for Black Night. He was sleeping like an angel kitten in his basket. Annie hurried downstairs to tell her mother and father that she had solved the mystery of the disappearing kitten. They listened to her story with amusement.

"You had too much candy last night, dear," said her father, laughing.

But Annie knew better. So did Black Night.

## Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 44—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



SKETCHING outdoors, it often happens when an artist asks someone to pose for a drawing that he gets a reply like this: "Sure, I'll be glad to pose but just wait until I get into some better clothes!" Now, surprising or not, these words are just what the artist doesn't want to hear. An old, well-worn pair of overalls is much more to his liking than a new outfit. The new clothes have no character about them. The folds and wrinkles run every which way.

But a sweat-stained hat, worn old boots, jacket or a pair of pants that have seen the heavy work of haying, digging garden, running the tractor or any of the thousand-and-one jobs that make up the farmer's work week are really something to draw. They fit their owner and seem to belong. In other words, they look right in a picture of farm life. When you see the

drawing you know at once that they have been observed from life.

When drawing overalls on a man remember that they are usually loose. Their weight is supported by the braces over the shoulders and not by a belt. Do not pay attention in a quick sketch to the small, insignificant wrinkles—go after the big folds and sweeping lines that start high up and follow through down the form. It is good practice to make a number of sweeping lines to express folds without attempting to draw the figure at all. Look at a subject for a few minutes and try to make a memory sketch of the folds in a half dozen strokes. Compare it with your model and try again. Don't put these lines down in a hesitating way. They must be done boldly—like throwing a forkful of alfalfa onto the rack.

# THE Country GUIDE

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THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME  
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VOL. LXXIV WINNIPEG, OCTOBER, 1955 No. 10

## I.W.A. Meeting

THIS month, in Washington, the countries signatory to the International Wheat Agreement are meeting to determine the immediate future of the Agreement. Canadian representatives will argue strongly for renewal. The United States will be less anxious, and Britain will be present, but without commitment. Australia, like Canada, will seek renewal.

It is not without significance that the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, meeting in Rome last month, strongly urged greater attention to international commodity agreements. Indeed, after discussion, during which much concern was voiced as to the future of international trade in farm products, the representatives of the 20 countries in attendance, suggested that: (1) GATT should accept primary responsibility through the working party already established, for developing acceptable general principles to govern international commodity consultation and communications; (2) FAO should recommend that the United Nations call a commodity conference when prospects for agreements appear favorable; and (3) that commodity councils should be set up to govern the operation of agreements achieved after successful negotiation.

More recently, several members of President Eisenhower's cabinet have been in Ottawa discussing, with corresponding Canadian ministers, the problems associated with international trade that involve both countries.

These coincidences are not accidental. They are evidence of a growing concern among responsible people in many countries about the implications for international trade, of inflationary influences, sustained postwar prosperity in non-agricultural industry, and the growing ability of agriculture throughout the world to produce. They are another facet of the same problem that GATT (General Agreement for Tariffs and Trade) was designed to meet, namely, the problem of freeing international trade. They are reminders, not only of the importance of uncared-for surpluses, but of a whole group of new problems and headaches for governments, which stem largely from the increasing attention which they are called upon to give to the many sectional interests within a national economy. V

## Marketing Legislation in Alberta

THE permissive legislation respecting producer marketing boards, recently passed by the Alberta Legislature, is not likely to satisfy either those organizations and individuals favoring legislation of this type, or those opposing it. Both groups will, no doubt, regret action by a government, which in principle compels 49 per cent of the producers of a product to market it according to a method dictated by the remaining 51 per cent.

The basis of voting under the Act is the reverse of customary democratic procedure. In this respect the Act may well be unique, in that it appears to be designed to nullify in practice, what it approves in principle. It is true that the Alberta Federation of Agriculture and the Farmers' Union of Alberta asked for a 66 per cent favorable vote of those voting, before a plan or scheme could come into effect; and that a 75 per cent turn-out, with a 68 per cent favorable vote, would yield the 51 per cent of all producers of the product to be marketed, that is required by the Act. Should only 65 per cent of all producers vote, the legislation would require a 78.5 per cent favorable vote, just as a 60 per cent turn-out would need 85 per cent support. If there were a 75 per cent turn-out and a two-to-one vote in favor of the scheme, it could not come into effect. In other words, the result of

a vote will depend primarily on how many farmers do not vote at all, rather than on how farmers vote. In 1952, for example, the Government itself was elected by only 31 per cent of all electors, or 56 per cent of the 55.5 per cent who voted.

The fundamental concept involved in democratic government is that of *equal opportunity under the law*. It does not impose *equal exercise of opportunity*, nor does it assume that if a citizen does not vote, he must be counted as opposed to an issue that may not have been in the mind of anyone when the relevant legislation was passed. If a man does not vote, he is not counted: he is assumed to be willing to go along with those who are in the majority among those whose feelings are sufficiently strong to cause them to vote. In this instance, the Legislature has assumed, wrongly, that all of those who do not vote will be opposed. The likelihood is, rather, that those who do not vote would fall, in about equal numbers, on both sides of the question.

If the Government had decided to require a 70, or 75 per cent favorable vote, by those voting for or against legislation of this kind, it would have been on much sounder ground, as to method. As matters stand, it has served notice that it is prepared to treat farmers as it would not want to be treated by farmers. After all, the Golden Rule was intended to apply to everyone. V

## More Government

ONE of the most significant developments of the last 50 years has occurred in the field of government. It has to do with the active participation of senior governments in the affairs of junior governments and individual citizens. Those who are old enough to remember the period prior to World War I will recall that government was then a comparatively remote institution. It existed for the purpose of doing those things which the people could not do for themselves, and doing them as inconspicuously as possible.

The views then current had been expressed much earlier by the American philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, when he said, "The less government we have, the better—the fewer laws, and the less confided power." History had already revealed the evils inherent in unlimited monarchies, dictatorships, and autocracies generally. Democracy, on the other hand, meant freedom for the individual—freedom of thought and action, and an inherent right to "the glorious privilege of being independent."

Wars, however, have a habit of changing both the pace and the direction of history. World War I demonstrated to most of the world that independence, under certain circumstances, was an ideal rather than a practicable idea. Governments acquired overnight an additional responsibility to seek, rather than to shun, prominence in the affairs of the individual, so that his freedoms might be preserved more fully. During the early '30's governments earned displeasure, because they had not learned to modify excessive inflation and ward off depression, or at least protect the people against its worst effects.

What World War I began, the second World War furthered. With the organization of the United Nations and its specialized agencies the people of the western world, to an unprecedented degree, became their brother's keeper. Many government leaders discovered, to their dismay, that the aftermath of war was involving them in unexpected international responsibilities and commitments, as well as activities at home from which they had previously refrained. The post-World-War-II atmosphere was vastly different from the prewar situation. In agriculture this was most marked by a provision for price supports with the aid of a \$200 million fund. The wartime arrangement between provincial and federal governments for the collection of revenues was continued; and there has been an increasing tendency for all governments, as well as individuals and organizations, to look for help at the least sign of trouble. There seems to be no likelihood at the present time, that this tendency will be reversed. Rather, it seems clear that the much-vaunted independence of the nineteenth century is gone for good. The business of living and of working has become much more complex. Stability

within our several economies, occupational, regional or national, seems more vitally important as well as practicable, now that we know that governments can play an effective part as regulators.

How far this tendency can go without making us too dependent on governments, no one can predict. All we know for certain is that less independence and more interdependence appears to have worked, so far. Perhaps during the years immediately before us, as many of us as possible should keep in mind the words of the Greek philosopher, Aristotle, 2,300 years ago: "Those states are likely to be well administered in which the middle class is large, and larger if possible than both the other classes, or at any rate than either singly; for the addition of the middle class turns the scale and prevents either of the extremes from being dominant." V

## Food for the Hungry

WHAT amounts to a revolution in human thinking has occurred within the last decade. In our concern about the peace of the world we have taken another step forward in our relationships with the peoples of other countries. For the first time in history we feel concern about the food supply of other nations, and more particularly, of the under-privileged peoples of under-developed countries. We have come to realize that we who live in the midst of plenty have a responsibility with respect to the continuing hunger of those who lack enough to eat.

Many factors have played a part in this great change in our thinking, but the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), stands as a symbol, not alone of the change itself, but of the circumstances responsible for it.

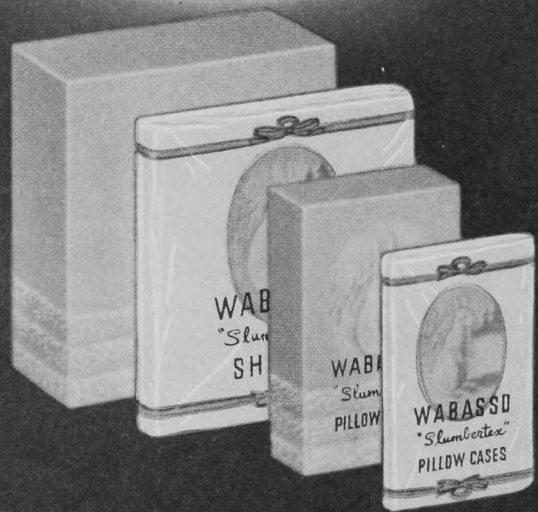
We in North America always have been accustomed to an abundance of food. This abundance, as well as the farmer who produced it, was taken for granted until after the beginning of World War I. New land had been relatively plentiful, and little necessity for conserving soil had been recognized on this continent. We were vaguely aware that millions of people in other parts of the world were very poor and inadequately fed. We were, in fact, sorry for them, and sent them missionaries that they might be helped to bear their privations with fortitude.

Today we have a different attitude toward other peoples. World War II was a global war. It affected everyone, including many millions whom we had scarcely known to exist. The improvement in communications, the development of science and of aviation, the influence of the press and of radio, and the development of the United Nations and its several specialized agencies, have all combined to bring us to a realization that we live in one world with these faraway peoples. Their problems are to some extent our problems. We cannot have peace while any considerable numbers of them are under-privileged and hungry, because such people cannot be either healthy, productive or satisfied.

Curiously enough, however, we have never learned how to adequately share our abundance with people who need it. We are adept at trading with anyone who has something that we need, or want, but until recently it never seemed worthwhile to learn how to trade food for peace. Now that we have too much food and too little peace, we do not know how to go about making the exchange. One reason is, of course, that no one knows the price of peace, or whether it has a price.

We do have reason to think that through the Colombo Plan, the Technical Assistance Program of the United Nations, and the Republican model of the U.S. Point Four program, we are helping under-developed countries to achieve fuller stomachs, five, ten or twenty years from now. These programs, nevertheless, are of little help to those who are hungry today, and will be hungry next month, and next year. They cannot be effective for the 65 thousand or 70 thousand new citizens—a substantial proportion of them in under-developed countries—who will be born tomorrow, and the next day, and every day thereafter, throughout the world. It is a sad commentary on our much-vaunted civilization that when surpluses arise, we do not know how to distribute them to those who need them. V

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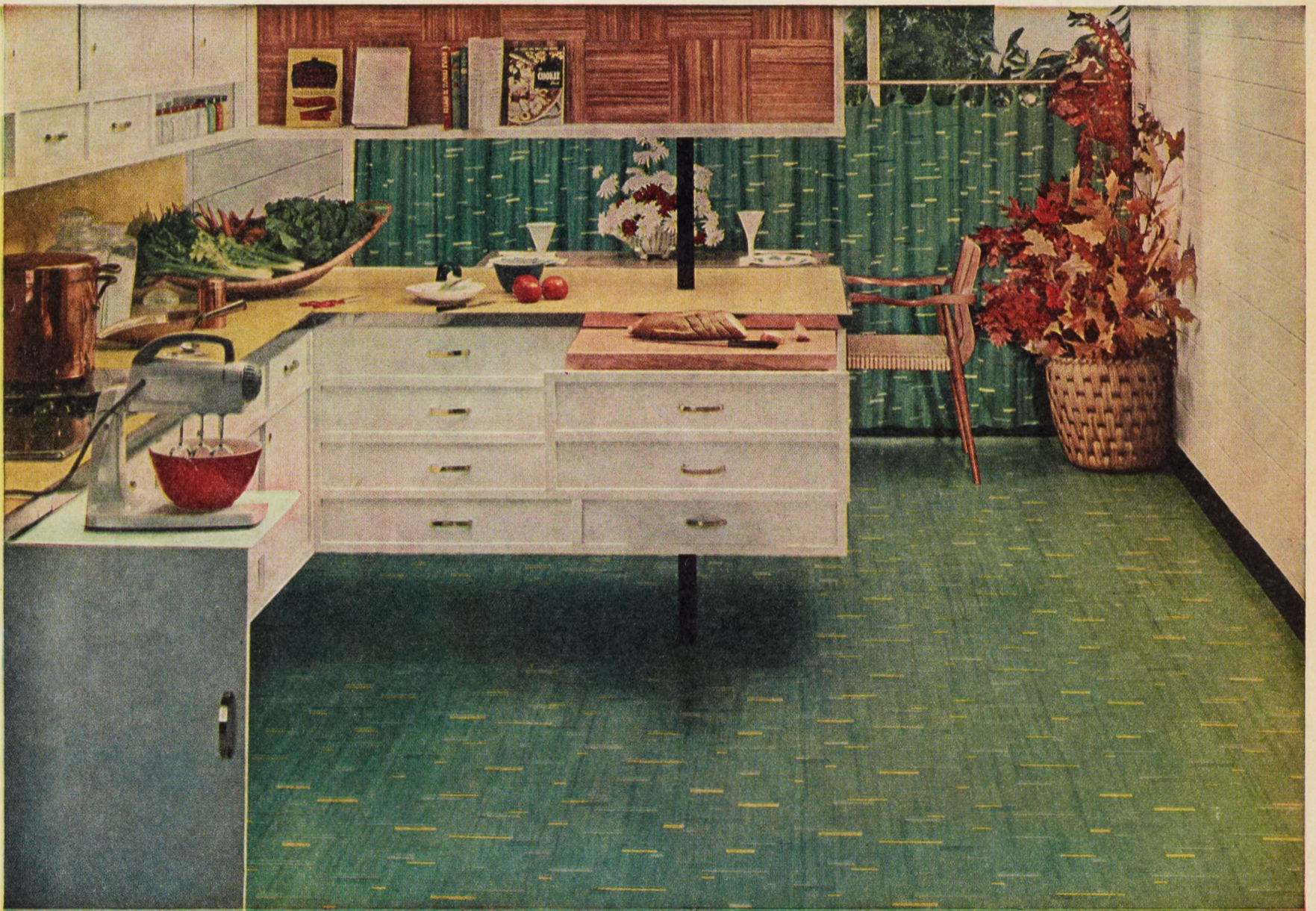
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